LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Date of Meeting: April 21, 2004
Place and time: Rawl 106 3:30pm
Person presiding: Ann Schreier

Regular members in attendance: Susan DelVecchio, Kevin Gross, Henry Ferrell, Salman Abdulali, Ed Wall, Marianna Walker, Ann Schreier
Ex-officio member in attendance: Jeff Coghill

1. The minutes of the meeting of February 18 were approved with amendments:
   - Ed Wall asked how legislative funding works with regard to acquisitions, and whether the state legislature takes into account the rising costs of acquisitions (journals, etc.) when funds are appropriated.

   Budgetary matters surrounding Distance Education and how that is related to scholarly access was also discussed. Funding for the Virtual Library, for instance, comes from revenue generated by DE.

   The two paragraphs above replace Ed Wall inquired about budgetary matters surrounding Distance Education and how that is related to scholarly access. Funding for the Virtual Library, for instance, comes from revenue generated by DE. Sec. 3, line 17.

2. Follow-up on the creation of a website for Open Access publications:
   Ann Schreier reported that David Durant consulted with Lori Lee about establishing a web link so that faculty senators can have access to materials related to open access publications.

3. Follow-up on BioMed Central and how the system might work on campus:
   - Jeff Coghill reported that Kim Armstrong, acting director of the consortium group, Triangle Research Libraries Network, sent a letter to representatives of BioMed Central inquiring into their fluctuating pricing model. Beginning in 2005, BioMed Central plans to levy a flat charge of $525 for every article submitted.
   - Henry Ferrell suggested that pursuing BioMed Central will not reduce expenditures and that pricing is getting out of control. ECU ought to have more control over its own scholarly resources. The increasing cost of “free” use of the Internet is interfering with access to scholarly work and its dissemination. Ferrell then moved that the committee submit a letter to President Broad on these matters along with a copy to the Chancellor of ECU. Wall said that a reduction in cost was one of the main reasons offered in defense of open access publications and that this reasoning is no longer available. The committee voted to submit the letter. The committee agreed that the chair of the committee, Ann Schreier, would draft the letter. Kevin Gross suggested that the packet on BioMed Central, which was disseminated to committee members at a previous meeting, accompany the letter to President Broad and the copy to the Chancellor. The committee agreed.
   - Ann Schreier observed that technical access to scholarly work is much better than it used to be. SFX, and its development, is a case in point. She says this is helping to offer ready availability of both scholarly materials in the Health Sciences Library and materials in Joyner Library. Henry Ferrell observed that advanced technology speeds up old processes. Marianna Walker observed that sometimes legibility is an issue when reading journal articles that are accessed electronically. She also observed that HTML documents have no page numbers. Ann Schreier said that some of the journal articles accessed electronically is not clearly legible. Jeff Coghill said that he would talk to the vendors about the legibility of these journals. Salman Abdulali said that the conversion to color in electronically accessed journal articles leads to difficulty when one attempts to print out the pages.
   - Jeff Coghill suggested that the Institutional Archives can serve the purpose of open access within the institution but that there is no unified strategy for tracking who owns what scholarly material. Schreier
observed that the UNC system has no method for tracking which of its member institutions has ownership over a given scholarly work.

- Salman Abdulali observed that North Carolina does not have a statewide consortium.
- Jeff Coghill remarked that the National Institute of Health asks applicants to estimate the cost of getting study results published in scholarly journals.

5. Discussion of the committee’s annual report:

- The committee wishes to acknowledge its gratitude to David Duran for his report on Open Access publications.
- Attendance of committee members needs to be addressed. Regular attendance by Joyner Library representatives and Health Sciences Library representatives as well as the student representative is important. Henry Ferrell will inquire about student representation on this committee.
- After gathering suggestions from the committee members, the chair identified committee business to be carried over into the next academic year:

  1. Report on libraries evaluation through Libqual.
  2. Acquisitions.
  4. Health Sciences Library Inter-Library Loan Service and the status of the proposal to continued free delivery of inter-library loan materials available for Allied Health and Nursing faculty and graduate students.

6. Additional Committee Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm.

The next committee meeting is the organizational meeting to be scheduled in September 2004.

Submitted by Ed Wall, substituting for Thomas Douglass