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Library Advisory Board

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MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
December 7, 2011

Lola Burnham, chair, convened the meeting at 4:02 p.m., in Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

Present: Mike Anderson, Lola Burnham, Melissa Caldwell, Cary De Ment, Ryan Hendrickson, Amitabh Joshi, Newton Key, Patrick Lach, Dean Allen Lanham, Betsy Pudliner, John Sigler, Jenny Sipes, and Ed Wehrle

Excused: Stephen Lucas, Abdou Illia, James Ochwa-Echel, Amy Rosenstein, and Peter Wiles

I. Welcome and Comments

A motion was made by Dr. Lach, and seconded by Dr. Hendrickson, to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2011 meeting; the motion carried.

II. Communications

Communications were received from Stephen Lucas, Abdou Illia, James Ochwa-Echel, and Amy Rosenstein, regarding their inability to attend this meeting.

III. Old Business

Dr. Lanham responded to a question raised at the last meeting regarding the number of faculty and staff employed at Booth Library over the years. Dean Lanham presented a chart showing that the number of Library faculty has stayed relatively stable over recent years. However, Booth Library has lost up to eight staff positions in the past twenty years. Some positions were redesigned to address the needs of the Library. Major changes in acquisitions and cataloging work flows have resulted in fewer staff, while the public desk staffing has remained fairly stable. The Library still needs to fill two staff positions and it is fairly certain that the other five to six positions will not be filled soon. A Board member requested additional information on Booth Library's operating line and other accounts, like the copier account and the Book and Materials account. Dr. Lanham reported that it has been at least five years since any change in budget has occurred for books and materials. In FY2007 the Library received an increase of \$100,685; in FY2005 the Library received a \$150,000 increase.

The 2012 *Booth Library's Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity* program was discussed in further detail. Dr. Pudliner suggested awards for faculty as a way to showcase unpublished faculty works. It was suggested that Booth Library's Institutional Repository, "The Keep" would be a place for faculty to display their research. Dr. Key asked about the status of "The Keep;" Dr. Lanham said that around 1700 documents are now in place. Dr. Hendrickson suggested that professors give a lecture on their research. Dr. Lanham replied that Booth Library used to sponsor a film and lecture series, but interest waned. Marlene Slough, Head of Acquisitions, and head of the Library's Programming Committee, was at the meeting to make a presentation, and she indicated that her committee would be the resource to facilitate these types of presentations. The presentations could be grouped by interdisciplinary topics. It was asked if professors could recommend students for research awards, and Dr. Lanham said the Library would not be opposed to receive nominations. The Library would then send a letter to the student(s) encouraging them to submit their research or creativity items for the program.

Dr. Hendrickson suggested limiting the number of entries to one per student as that should be sufficient to show the student's use of Booth Library. However, others felt that one entry was too limiting, especially since some students may want to submit a creative project, outside the scope of their degree program. Draft bookmarks were distributed to the members. Dr. Sipes thought that the mention of a monetary award would entice more students to participate. Dr. Lanham indicated that the wording would be difficult to put on the bookmarks as the award money might not be a check, but applied to the student's account to pay off a debt. Dr. Lanham said that the web version of the program information would disclose this in more detail.

IV. New Business

Dr. Key proposed that the Library Advisory Board think about preparing a resolution requesting more funding for the acquisition budget since it has not increased in five years. He stated that the Board should be proactive in requesting more dollars, especially since database costs have increased. Dr. Lanham indicated that the operating budget for Booth Library is often reviewed to determine what dollars can be transferred to acquisitions. Dr. Pudliner suggested that the Library Advisory Board start the resolution process; perhaps that would roll over to other departments. Dr. Key will send a draft to Lola Burnham and she will send it out to the Board via email.

Dean's Report

Dr. Lanham introduced today's guest speaker, Marlene Slough, Head of Acquisitions. Marlene presented an overview of the Library's efforts to provide online access to journal content. Last year's annual periodical review placed special emphasis on reducing costs by eliminating the purchase of content in multiple formats, and as a result, approximately 350 titles were moved to online-only format. In general, the number of print subscriptions has steadily declined over the past 15 years while the number of e-journal subscriptions has rapidly increased. A graph illustrating the ratio of print to e-journal subscriptions documents a dramatic increase in the number of e-journals during the past five years due to changes in publisher pricing models which favor institutions of "medium" size such as Eastern Illinois University. So, despite flat budgets and steep inflation, the number of journal subscriptions (including print and e-journals) has tripled since 1998. Currently, the library subscribes to approximately 1000 print journals and provides access to approximately 9000 e-journals. Dr. Wehrle asked about contracts with the various e-resource providers and was told that all our contracts are on an annual basis because of university purchasing guidelines. Dr. Lanham stated that because we are a member of the CARLI consortium, we have archival rights for many e-materials, and if any packages were dropped, we could get the data for many of them, at least, in another format.

Personnel

Dean Lanham informed the Board that the Library has hired Randy Kuehn as the new Head of Library Technology Services. In addition, the vacant faculty position in Cataloging has been announced. Anita Thomas, a library specialist in Cataloging, will be retiring at the end of December.

Service Issues

Due to time constraints, the review of the 2011 Patron Satisfaction Survey results will be discussed at the next Board meeting in February 2012.

Dean Lanham announced that on Thursday morning, December 22, the south entrance to Booth Library will be closed to both staff and faculty. A crane will be used to exchange equipment on the roof. For safety concerns, the Library was asked to accommodate this process by keeping people out of the area, hopefully for a brief time only.

Dr. Lanham asked the Board to note the handout regarding several ongoing CARLI items that were discussed at their board meeting last Friday. The CARLI consortium consists of about 85 libraries. The CARLI Patron Driven Acquisitions Project is to begin in January 2012, and the third phase of the move to I-Share standard Universal Borrowing will take effect in January 2012. There will be blocks to patrons' records with more than 25 items overdue. However, this will not affect local borrowing at Booth Library. There are only ten EIU patrons on this list; a combined total of 1964 patrons across the State will be blocked if their records are not cleared before January 5, 2012.

Programming Events

Booth Library's Staff Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 16, 2011.

V. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Key and seconded by Dr. Pudliner to adjourn the meeting, at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christine Derrickson, Recording Secretary