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Library Advisory Board

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MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

February 18, 1998

The meeting was convened by Dr. Lankford Walker, Chair, at 4:05 p.m. in the Dean's Conference Room of Booth Library.

Present: Reed Benedict, Robert Fischer, Joyce Higgins, Barbara Kemmerer, Brian Pritschet, John Weber, Ted Weidner, Elizabeth Weller.

Absent: Randall Beebe, Rosemary Buck, Leo Comerford, Scott Crawford, Steve Davis, Ryan Hilligoss, Karen Ketler, Dr. Lanham.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Higgins moved to approve the minutes of the November 12 meeting; Dr. Benedict seconded. There were no corrections or additions. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Walker read communications from several board members. Scott Crawford and Karen Ketler both notified Dr. Walker that they are teaching a class this semester and will not be able to attend meetings. Alternates Brian Pritschet and Barbara Kemmerer will assume their places as voting members for this semester. Leo Comerford and Rosemary Buck both notified Dr. Walker that they were unable to attend today's meeting.

Dr. Walker asked that all those in attendance introduce themselves.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Dr. Walker re-introduced the Collection Development Committee's policy, calling attention to Section III which refers to the Board's role in determining the library's departmental budget allocations. The Board was told at the last meeting that the policy was being reviewed and this review would be completed by February 1998, but since Dr. Lanham was not in attendance the matter would be tabled. Dr. Walker noted that the introduction to the policy states that the Board is to have a role in the review process, and asked the members to read the policy and the related letter from Dr. Karl Grisso and be prepared to discuss them at the next meeting. Dr. Benedict asked if this review will be handled by a sub-committee or by the Board as a whole. Dr. Walker said he wanted the review to be handled by the whole Board; a sub-committee will be appointed only if necessary.

B. Dr. Fischer asked if Mr. Weidner could update the Board on the library renovation. Mr. Weidner said he was not at liberty to be specific, but said negotiations with an architect are taking place and should be finalized soon. Announcements will then be made as to which architect was chosen, schedules and timetables, etc. Dr. Walker asked if the whole library collection will be moved during the renovation; Mr. Weidner said yes, this is the plan. He and his staff will be working on this—it will not be the sole responsibility of the architect. Mr. Weidner noted that the candidates for provost have all been given a tour of the library and informed of the nature of this project.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. No Dean's report.

B. Dr. Fischer said faculty in his area are complaining of the slowness of computer access and printing of online materials. They are concerned that if computer access is the wave of the future, this time lag is not acceptable. The hardware is not keeping up with the demand for access. Dr. Benedict asked if this matter is something the ATAC needs to address. Discussion followed.

Dr. Fischer said his faculty also asked him to bring up the subject of how journal use is tallied. The usage numbers sent to the departments do not appear to be accurate. The faculty are certain some journals are taken off the shelves more often than the numbers indicate. Discussion followed.

Dr. Walker called the Board's attention to the bylaws, Sec. IV.B.1., regarding election of officers. He thought this item was not clear and implies that only continuing members are eligible to vote. He believes all members, even alternates if it is so desired, should be eligible to vote. Mr. Weidner said he didn't read it that way, but perhaps it should be changed to read that only continuing members are eligible to be nominated. It was agreed that this item should be clarified. Dr. Higgins and Ms. Weller will work on the revision and present it to the Board for a vote at the next meeting. Mr. Weidner reminded everyone of the specification in Sec. IX that approval by 2/3 of the members is needed to amend the bylaws. Dr. Higgins noted that the 2/3 requirement need not apply to attendance, as members could vote for officers without attending the meeting. There was discussion of attendance problems.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library Advisory Board will be WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, at 4 p.m.

Mary Grivetti, Recording Secretary