

Senate Committee on the Library
Annual Report
2010-2011

The Senate Committee on the Library met four times each semester during the academic year. The major effort for the year was framing, articulating and fine-tuning Resolution LB.11.01, concerned with open access to publications authored by faculty at the Urbana-Champaign campus. The resolution is slated for consideration at the April 28, 2011 meeting of the Senate. The resolution is on file with the Senate clerk.

Issues brought to the attention of the Committee by the University Librarian include:

- The highly successful fundraising achieved by the Library via the Brilliant Futures campaign. In addition to alumni donations, the Mellon Foundation (among others) has awarded grants and contracts in support of efforts recognized nationally.
- The combination of the Geology Library with the Grainger Engineering Library.
- The closing of the Biology Library during the summer of 2011, and the moving of its collection to the Funk Family ACES Library.
- The January 2011 opening of the new Literature, Languages, and Linguistics Library.
- The increasing urgency of data stewardship, due both to the volume of data generation and requirements of outside agencies. The Library will focus on such requirements and assist the campus in developing appropriate storage and dissemination plans during the coming academic year.
- The improvement of Library security in a manner that preserves the privacy of legitimate Library users. Cameras monitor hallways, stairwells, and commons areas, but not areas where materials are obtained and used.
- The Stewarding Excellence review of the Library gave it generally high marks, particularly in getting ahead of the campus as a whole in resource reallocation through the New Service Models initiative.

Topics considered in light of reports by Library staff include:

- The storage of all doctoral theses in the IDEALS repository, embargoed as appropriate to preserve publication and intellectual property rights.
- The acquisition by the Library of its twelve-millionth volume.
- The activation of the Scholarly Commons whose many foci include advising campus personnel of author rights, acting as a central resource for digital humanities and database access, and providing training in use of Library research resources.
- The new requirement that acquisitions be negotiated earlier in the year, and the effects of Senate Bill 51, which mandates certain competitive bidding rules and various registrations and assurances by suppliers, are impeding collection development.
- The move from Exceptional Dewey Decimal to Library of Congress indexing for new materials. Despite the confusion which the move may initially cause, the change will in the long term be cost saving and bring the Library into conformance with international common practice. Initially, the change will occur only in the Literature, Languages, and Linguistics Library and the Undergraduate Library. Priorities for changes elsewhere have not yet been set.
- As access to materials moves more and more on-line, Libraries are considering how to consolidate hard-copy holdings to avoid needless duplication (and the costs attendant thereto) while preserving adequate archival hard copy.

Compared to recent years, there was less disquiet on campus about Library policy, at least within earshot of Committee members. New Service Model changes are either working or being accepted with quiet resignation. SCL remains worried about the erosion in Library size, quality, and morale due to budgetary pressures, but similar problems affect all units on Campus. Pressures to centralize activities based on assertions of cost savings (for example in Information Technology) may also erode quality, whether or not the savings are realized.

Respectfully submitted,

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