

**University Library Committee
Annual Report
2012–2013**

I. Committee Charge

The University Library Committee (ULC) reviews, consults and advises on, plans for, and receives reports and recommendations on the performance of library services, automation, budget, administrative structure, and allocation of resources. Responsibility for keeping the faculty informed of major issues and for creating opportunities for the faculty to discuss priorities also falls to the committee. (see *Faculty Policies and Procedures* 6.46.B).

II. Summary of Activities and Issues

Fiscal year 2012–2013 was a time of transition for the Libraries. The Libraries looked to the ULC for input on several issues throughout this period.

Library Budget

Budget discussions focused on the budget and staff challenges and the Libraries' responses.

Strategic Planning

The Libraries began a strategic planning process. The ULC was asked to participate and provide input to the strategic framework designed for 2014–2019.

Human Resources

The candidates for the Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian positions were on campus during November and December (2012).

Development and Fundraising

A development director was hired by the Foundation and the Libraries to focus full-time on fundraising and development.

Collection Development and Services

A flat collection development budget resulted in increasing cuts to the Libraries' collections.

Library Services

Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan services split from the Libraries and provided new opportunities for the Libraries to streamline lending and borrowing.

(continued)

Collaboration and Partnerships

Despite the budget challenges the Libraries are participating in several exciting campus collaborations.

Library Spaces

Library administration continues to review and reallocate spaces.

Miscellaneous

Presentations were made throughout the year by campus library directors and other campus experts on issues of interest to the committee.

Priorities for 2013—2014

III. Detail of Current/Past Year's Activities and Issues

Library Budget

The Vice Provost reported on progress being made with library funding despite the fact that the UW–Madison collection budget is ranked one of the lowest in the CIC. They are second from the bottom, just above Purdue. The top school, Michigan, has a collection budget of \$23 million whereas the UW-Madison Libraries combined collection budget is \$10.9 million.

A request was made to the Provost for \$500,000 per year for 3 years with a 3% increase after that to support library collections. The result of the request was a permanent increase of \$500,000; \$300,000 for collections (\$64,500 of which goes to Ebling, Merit and Law) and \$200,000 for the CIC large acquisitions program (see collection development for more information).

It was also reported that additional funds would be provided by the Student Information Technology Initiative (SITI). The GLS was awarded SITI funding of \$100,000 plus a \$250,000 base budget adjustment specifically targeted for e-books, mobile access, and educational innovation.

Mary Rader, former collections development officer, reported that although the additional funds provided some relief, most of the FY13 budget lines took a 10% cut on top of inflation. These deep cuts are impacting the Libraries' ability to support research and teaching.

(continued)

Strategic Planning

The Vice Provost briefed the ULC on the campus libraries strategic planning process to create a strategic framework for 2014–2019. The process began in July 2013, and involved engagements with a number of campus constituents and stakeholders including the campus leadership, governance groups, patron groups, and library staff. Feedback, insights, and input are being used to create a strategic framework to guide the Libraries' work in the coming years. The ULC was asked to participate and provide input.

Human Resources

One of the biggest issues in front of the ULC was the recruiting and hiring of a new director of Libraries. With the retirement of former library director Ken Frazier, the ULC was asked to provide input to the discussion about the position and faculty needs. The October and December meetings were devoted to this recruitment.

Professor William Aylward, the chair of the campus search and screen committee for the Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian attended ULC meetings to provide information on the progress of the search committee. In October Professor Aylward was also interested in obtaining input from the ULC regarding needs for the position. The ULC felt strongly that the title of director be changed to ensure that the position would have voting authority on the Dean's Council. They endorsed a resolution that was sent to the search committee. (Appendix I) Ultimately the title was changed from Director to Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian.

The December ULC meeting was a discussion about the Vice Provost candidates following their presentations and meetings.

The ULC was also briefed on the decision by the Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan Service (WiLS) in 2012 to break away from the GLS. Beginning in July 2013 the GLS incorporated the lending portion of WiLS into their workflow. The Libraries' administration team worked with the ILL staff to set up the budget and recruit four new positions for this area.

Development and Fundraising

The need for external funding for the Libraries was an ongoing point of discussion for the ULC. There was a recommendation made to the Libraries to form an advisory board or board of visitors to help develop fundraising strategies. In April, the Libraries and the UW Foundation were successful in recruiting Ben Strand, a development officer who is dedicated to solely working on fundraising for the campus libraries.

(continued)

Collection Development

The CIC large acquisition program: Each year, the CIC schools pool collection funding for a consortia purchase which is typically around a million dollars. For UW–Madison, it has become more and more difficult to pay our portion which is about \$200,000. This year, the Provost and Vice Chancellor agreed to provide the funding for the CIC large acquisition program.

Library Services

Due to the split with WiLS, for the first time in more than twenty years the Libraries' borrowing and lending departments are one centralized unit. Most importantly, because campus library staff fill the requests, it appears that the Libraries will greatly improve the service for users.

Collaborations and Partnerships

The Libraries have an Educational Innovation Task Force engaged in substantive ways with projects that fit under the broad rubric of Educational Innovation. The work of this task force is intended to complement the work of Library Administration and campus leaders by reviewing and enhancing the ability of the UW-Madison Libraries to consult in the development and support of EI projects. The task force is developing a framework to ensure that library resources and services are being aligned with the EI initiatives to support research and teaching.

Libraries' Spaces

Library directors and the vice provost presented briefings throughout the year on changes to campus library spaces.

- College Library computer lab redesign included the media studio classroom (a digital media rich environment for small group collaborative projects); the design lab (digital project design consulting with a digital aesthetics and composition focus); and software training (resources for software training in proximity to the other digital creation services and support).
- The Primate Library closed and the collection was redistributed to other campus libraries.
- Construction on the Verona Storage Facility began in fall 2013. The need for a storage facility has been on the table since 1994. Collection decisions, staffing plans and access decisions are being discussed. The facility will hold 800,000 volumes and is projected to provide additional storage for the next 5 years. The Libraries are also

(continued)

- collaborating with other institutions on coordinated print storage, primarily of journals. An extensive de-duplication project was started more than a year ago in preparation for storage planning. The Verona facility is being funded with \$1 million in unrestricted library gift funds along with 1.2 million from campus funding. Campus also agreed to pay for any additional site preparation costs that exceed the initial estimate.
- A Memorial Library space committee is examining space usage in the library with particular attention being paid to the second floor area that used to house the card catalog. The goal is to create a new library space that will be devoted to fostering innovative approaches to research, teaching, and technology.

Miscellaneous

- Campus libraries report that usage continues to be strong. The Libraries had approximately 3.5 million users recorded for 2012–2013. The Libraries continue to remind and inform their constituencies (faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, donors) of the services and resources that the Libraries provide for the university, the state, and around the world.
- Ongoing discussions about the high cost of textbooks, the Libraries' textbook reserve policies, and the increased availability of e-textbooks.

Priorities for 2013-2014

1. Implement operations for the Verona storage facility
2. Examine all of the campus libraries' spaces to begin freeing shelf space across campus libraries for new materials and other purposes.
3. Develop goals and objectives around the strategic planning framework
4. The Libraries were asked to provide input to a 25-year Facilities Master Plan. Initial work on developing this plan will begin in 2014.
5. Actively participate in the search and recruitment of two new Associate University Librarians; one for public services and the second for collections and research
6. Participate in the UW System PDA for ebooks.

(continued)

Appendix I

Resolution to Library Director Search & Screen Committee Submitted by the University Library Committee 03/01/2012

(Members present: John Booske, Phillip Braithwaite, Karen Britland, Karl Broman, Tom Chapin, Ron Harris, Cynthia Jasper, Sara Lazenby, John Pfothenauer, and David Weimer)

WHEREAS the UW–Madison Libraries are fundamental to the success and research stature of the University of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS the UW–Madison Libraries are essential to supporting the teaching and research missions of the University of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS faculty and student success, academic research capacity, and productivity depends on a strong UW–Madison Library system; and

WHEREAS the UW–Madison Libraries are vital to the ability of UW–Madison to attract and retain researchers; therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED that the University Library Committee recommends to the Library Director Search & Screen Committee that

- The new director of the libraries should have voting authority on the Dean’s Council.