

Senate Library Services Committee
Minutes of the meeting on May 8, 2008

Present: Dean/Director C. Filstrup, Chair R. Shrock; H. Ahn, J. Bock, B. Butt, F. Cash, A. W. Godfrey, J. Jo, S. Koch, F. J. Torre, M. Vigneaux (recorder)
Members Absent: J. Lochhead, K. Nyitray, L.-S. Wang, J. Yahil

First, the minutes from the meeting of 4/10/08 were approved.

Next, Bob Shrock called attention to Chinese cookbook exhibit.

Bob Shrock noted that, pursuant to the directive to the science, math, and engineering departments to identify journals to which subscriptions could be terminated to reduce journal expenditures by 10 %, the Physics/Astronomy Department has carried out this task and has given its list to Sherry Chang. Hongshik Ahn added that the Applied Math & Statistics Department has been able to do the same. Steve Koch commented that the Chemistry Department is working on making cuts. In response to Jessica Gurevitch's 5/18/08 email to the provost, Shrock has tried to contact her. He surmises that Ecology & Evolution may be affected by the lack of funds from the Health Sciences Center.

The library will put lists of serials which are candidates for cancellation on the web so that all the affected departments can look at each others' lists and responses. The library will also share the lists with the other three Center libraries to see whether last copies can be protected. The due date for cancellations is October 2008.

Chris Filstrup gave a report on a proposed breakdown of the 3.2% (= \$320K) the libraries are cutting: 80K student wages; 175K serials cuts; 10K equipment; 55K vacancies left unfilled. If no inflationary money is received, more cuts may be needed.

Julitta Jo reported that the Health Sciences Library (HSL) has not begun its search for a new library director. Moises Eisenberg will take over in the interim between Marsh's retirement and the arrival of a new director. Julitta will confirm that it is all right to distribute to the committee members the report of the consultants. She described how HSL was identifying serials to cancel if HSL does not receive inflationary funds. . Now there are 5 vacancies for job positions, but there is no hiring.

Chris Filstrup presented information concerning funds for library "rehab", to be used to purchase a new Music Library piano, new furniture for the Central Reading Room and new carpet & furniture for the North Reading Room. Darren Chase has accepted a job as librarian at Southampton and additionally will work on the library's website. The main library has extended hours during exams; only SBU students can study after midnight.

Chris Filstrup gave a very interesting demonstration on web use of Google Books. Google books has scanned over 1 million books and plans to scan over 5 million. Some are available in full text, while others are available only in partial text. Google Books also includes covers and some reviews. The library used International Standard Book Numbers (ISBN's) for its own monograph holdings to query Google Books and place in the library catalog Google Book links. This brings a lot of new information into the catalog, and in some cases full text, which can be

searched. This enrichment of the online catalog is free and is an example of how networked information can be linked and how digitization opens the content for easy searching. Bob Shrock added that Google books is a convenience if one wants to check on a specific topic without reading the entire book or going to the library's shelves. The committee endorsed this enhancement of the online catalog.

The committee will not meet in June unless Shrock or Filstrup thinks it necessary.