

October 11, 2007, Senate Library Committee Meeting

In attendance. Jeanne Galbraith, Sherry Chang, Kristen Nyitray, Bushra Butt, Hongskik Ahn, Stephen Koch, Bill Godfrey, Robert Shrock.

Robert Shrock was unanimously chosen to be Chairman of the committee.

- 1) Robert brought to the committee the question of possible copyright infringement by use of copied information in classroom teaching. Jeanne pointed out the complexity of the copyright law but indicated the exception for educational use of copyrighted material.
- 2) Kristen Nyitray indicated the need for an area in the library for displaying the growing number of unique historic items in the library's collection. The recently acquired 1779 Washington Long Island Spy letter is a prominent example. A Long Island history conference recently run by the library was oversubscribed by nearly 50%. Display space exists at most university libraries. The best space for a display has been taken by the university to be used as an eating establishment. There was a general discussion of the problem of food being brought into the library which is made worse since the university persists in putting a food facility on the main floor of the library. The next best space would be the current microfilm room, which is off the central reading room. The limited use of microfilm reading room can no longer justify its location of the first floor of the library. The library administration is urged to create a display space.
- 3) West Campus library update by Sherry Chang (representing Chris Filstrup):
 - a) The Computer Science Library has been moved to the main library and the furniture and the shelves have been used for the Southampton Campus library. When Long Island University left Southampton, they took all the books and furniture from the library including a valuable collection of marine science books.
 - b) The plan for a virtual library for Southampton College has been modified to take into account President Kenny's request for the library to include books. Librarians at the Southampton campus will be under the administration of the Melville library.
 - c) There are 70,000 (note the updated number) volumes in the offsite book repository which is located in Westchester County. The number of volumes is growing every week. There have been preliminary discussions for the creation of an offsite repository at Flowerfield as part of a general university storage facility. The number of requests for books from the offsite storage facility have been limited.
- 4) Jeanne Galbraith gave an update of the situation in the Health Science Library.
 - a) Director Spenser Marsh is retiring and an outside committee is coming to evaluate the library.
 - b) The search of a computer librarian is well underway.

- c) The HSL library is operating under a “stable budget” which is the state term for a budget at last year’s level. The library will have to absorb the inflationary increases in journals and books.
- d) The HSC library is switching to a different vendor for the acquisition of books and journals. One of the benefits of the change is the increase in computer technology; eg. ordering books with a mouse click
- e) An Information Commons has been introduced in the center of the library which is equipped with computers and staffed by a librarian and a technical person.
- f) The entering medical students have been assigned a “personal librarian” to increase their access to the library resources.
- g) The Aleph catalog has been undated to version 17 but not yet version 18 (due to problems with the vendor. Version 18 is currently used in the West Campus library (which is the lead library in the SUNY system for the Aleph system).
- h) Jeanne is retiring. Her long and valued service to the committee was acknowledged. A representative of HSL will be elected to serve as her replacement on the committee.