

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Friday, November 6, 1998

238 Morrill Hall

1:00 PM

In these minutes:

Update on the Status of the Libraries, Library Task Force Report, Coordinate Campus Updates, Plans for Faculty Fora

MINUTES

Present: Peter Wells (Chair); Suzanne Thorpe for Joan Howland, Karen Fischer, Peggy Johnson for Tom Shaughnessy, Bill Sozansky, Owen Williams, Jill Gidmark, Julia Kelly, Barbara Martinson, James Orf, Phillip Portoghese, Amy Gregoret, Mark Zell, Warren Warwick

Regrets: Mathur Kannan, Robert Seidel

Absent: Paul Ruden, Richard Richards, Norma Allewell, Jesse Grenz

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

The University of Minnesota Senate Library Committee met at 1:00 PM on Friday, November 6, 1998 in 238 Morrill Hall on the East Bank of the University of Minnesota.

MINUTES.

The minutes from the Library Committee meeting held on October 2 were approved as written.

UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE LIBRARIES.

- Peggy Johnson, Assistant University Librarian, announced that Ms. Kathryn Neel has been hired as the new Curator of the Archie Givens Collection at the University of Minnesota; Professor Peter Wells, Chair, would like to invite Ms. Neel to a future Library Committee meeting.
- The October edition of the University of Minnesota Library Line was distributed to committee members at the meeting for their information; the newsletter describes some of the important changes in the libraries.
- The University libraries compact document is now one of many to be placed on the Executive Vice President and Provost web page; Ms. Johnson noted that the University libraries have just begun on the 1999-2000 compact process. The compact is developed primarily by library staff and discusses strategies, staffing issues, planning, and outcomes.

- Ms. Johnson described QuickStart, a program designed to help undergraduates get started on research projects. The program directs students to University library resources; the software for this initiative is being made available to MNSCU libraries.

LIBRARY TASK FORCE REPORT.

A copy of the report titled, "Task Force on the Needs and Future of the University of Minnesota Library System," dated October 20, 1998, was distributed to all members of the Library Committee prior to the meeting for their review. Peggy Johnson reported that Executive Vice President & Provost Robert Bruininks appointed this task force last spring to address the long-range needs and the future of the University libraries. A draft was submitted to EVPP Bruininks by the August 15, 1998 deadline and became the basis for the library biennial request. The University libraries hope to receive enough support to be able to provide new hardware and workstations every three years. It was also noted that although it is easier to request resources for new digital technology, it is not as easy to ask for funds to maintain old formats in the library system. In any event, the libraries are a main funding focus in the importance of undergraduate education. Professor Wells asked members to further review the task force report before the December meeting so that a letter can be drafted to the administration expressing the committee's support of the document.

COORDINATE CAMPUS UPDATES.

Crookston - Owen Williams reported that the Crookston campus has secured JSTOR (acronym for journal storage) which includes journals from approximately 10 or more different disciplines, including mathematics, history, engineering, education, sociology, and ecology to name a few. It is a web-based program from the University of Michigan, is constantly expanding, and is able to be accessed by students from off-campus locations such as dormitories and residential housing units. Owen agreed to bring more information about JSTOR to the December meeting for committee members, but added that it can be accessed in the meantime at the following address: jstor.org.

Duluth - Bill Sozansky noted that construction for the new library is on schedule to open July, 2000. In addition, the library will be adding new database services. Unfortunately, the library will also be losing 2 of its employees out of 30, so they plan to advertise the position fairly quickly.

Morris - Karen Fischer stated that Morris is the first campus of the University to come up on MNLink. She hopes that the staff can start using the new program in the spring and that it can be up on the system before the year 2000.

PLANS FOR FACULTY FORA.

Professor Wells reported that he and Tom Shaughnessy, Director of the University Libraries, have held several discussions about the faculty fora and agreed that the first session be held after the first of the year. He added that he would like to start with an upbeat session on everything that the libraries have to offer, how decisions are made, and how faculty can contribute, for example. The aim is to make the University libraries less mysterious to the faculty. Committee members recommended that the faculty fora be publicized far in advance and that subjects or speakers be solicited from various members of the University. It was recommended that Professor Wells contact futurist Eugene Garfield from ISI who can talk about the direction of the libraries ten years from now. The committee may also want to invite the new Lieutenant Governor to one of the foras or a future Library Committee meeting. Topics suggested for the faculty fora included an update on the Gateway Building and MN Library Access Center, copyright issues, and journal costs. Professor Wells asked committee members to provide him with comments between meetings on ideas for the faculty fora.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40PM.