

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 14, 1998

Music Library: West Bank

3:00 PM

In these minutes:

Statement for the Capital Campaign, Trip to Poland, Report to the Senate, Task Force on the Needs and Future of University Libraries, Coordinate Campus Reports, Music Library Tour

MINUTES

Present: Gerhard Weiss (Chair); Karen Fischer, Suzanne Thorp for Joan Howland, Thomas Shaughnessy, Bill Sozansky, Robert McMaster, James Orf, Richard Richards, Warren Warwick, Peter Wells, Amy Gregoret

Regrets: Owen Williams, Julia Kelly, Barbara Martinson, Bruce Moskowitz, Phillip Portoghese

Absent: Linda Jorn, Mathur Kannan, Ari Hoptman, Ben Ridgway

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 3:00 PM on Tuesday, April 14, 1998 in the Schuessler Room (Music Library) in the basement of Ferguson Hall on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota.

MINUTES.

The minutes from the Library Committee meeting held on March 18, 1998 were approved as written.

STATEMENT FROM THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

A draft copy of the statement for the capital campaign, entitled "The University Library -- Preserving the Past and Nurturing the Future," was distributed by mail to committee members prior to the meeting for their review. Thomas Shaughnessy, Director of the University Libraries, stated that effective January 1, 1998, any donations received by the University Foundation would be counted toward the capital campaign. Mr. Shaughnessy was pleased to announce that people are contributing in record numbers to the University of Minnesota. However, many of the University library donations are provided in many smaller gifts rather than fewer large gifts. Although the University libraries were excluded from the last capital campaign, the libraries have been assured of inclusion in this campaign.

Mr. Shaughnessy reported that he tried to capture President Yudof's theme of moving into the new century with updated technology at the University in the case statement. Since the President has given chancellors of the coordinate campuses the responsibility of developing their libraries, this case statement applies only to the Twin Cities libraries. The case statement that was distributed is the first draft, and Mr. Shaughnessy asked committee members to provide him with comments and suggestions for changes.

Burr Gibson is one of the best consultants in the country to advise on capital campaign matters and has provided a great deal of valuable information to the University. Mr. Gibson feels that although it is very difficult to raise money for the libraries, it is not impossible. He also suggested that the University should focus on identifying 10-12 people with the means to contribute larger donations to supplement the allocation that the University libraries primarily rely on.

The members of the Library Committee made the following recommendations for changes to the draft statement:

- Add information about the fact that the University libraries store government documents as a service to the state and region.
- Change the title to "The University Library -- Nurturing the Future and Preserving the Past" to emphasize new technology in the University's mission.
- Add the importance of the need for current journals to stress keeping faculty current with the latest research.

TRIP TO POLAND.

Tom Shaughnessy recently returned from a trip to Poland that had been made possible because of the relationship between the College of Liberal Arts and USIA with the University in Lublin, Poland. He noted that the Polish libraries are not as current with library automation as the U of M and asked OCLC to provide them with access to databases for a one-month trial basis. The library staff and students are very interested in coming to the University of Minnesota, perhaps through some type of internship or exchange program with Lublin. Mr. Shaughnessy reported that his trip to Poland was a wonderful experience.

REPORT TO THE SENATE.

Professor Gerhard Weiss, Chair, invited the members of the Library Committee to attend the Senate meeting on May 14, 1998. He distributed a draft outline listing the points he will make during his presentation to the Senate, including the following:

- Positive Developments: Wilson Library construction is on schedule, funding for the Walter "Digital" Library is assured, and the Library Access Center construction is making good progress
- Problem Areas: Erosion of purchasing power and special problems with serials, including cost increases and leading to a decrease in the purchase of titles

The above information will be presented to the Senate for information only, not action. Committee members encouraged Professor Weiss to inform faculty members of the rapid increase of existing titles and new titles being released, as well as the fact that the University is spending more money for serials, but buying less. It was also recommended that staffing problems also be reported. Professor Weiss will get the issue on the Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC) docket and asked committee members to e-mail any ideas or concerns they would like included with the presentation to him as soon as possible.

TASK FORCE ON NEEDS AND FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY.

Executive Vice President & Provost Robert Bruininks sent a draft of a letter to Mr. Shaughnessy, U Library Director, Professor Weiss, and Vice Provost Norma Allewell regarding the needs and future of the University of Minnesota Library System; a copy of the letter was distributed to committee members at the meeting for their

review. The letter asked recipients to serve on a short-term task force to provide advice on the future needs, role, support, and directions for the University libraries. Executive VP Bruininks hopes that the task force will be able to provide substantive recommendations that will improve the operation and coordination of existing library resources, as well as creating an important proposal for the next biennial budget request. Executive VP Bruininks has asked Tom Shaughnessy and Vice Provost Allewell to co-chair the task force and to submit an interim report by July 1, 1998 to address several questions and issues identified in the letter. Mr. Shaughnessy asked committee members to review the letter and provide him with their comments.

COORDINATE CAMPUS UPDATES.

- Duluth -- Bill Sozansky reported that the Duluth Library will get all of the money in full for a new building. A report on MNLink vendor evaluations will also be released tomorrow and the library planning task force will be accepting or rejecting the report next week. This is a positive development that will unite all coordinate campuses on one common server.
- Morris -- Karen Fischer noted that the Morris Library will most likely get more space resulting from office moves once the construction for the new Recreation Center is completed. She added that the weeding-out of outdated materials has gone very well thanks to the faculty.

MUSIC LIBRARY TOUR.

Laurie Probst, Head of the Music Library, provided committee members with a brief background of the Roy Schuessler Room and the University Music Library before taking them on a tour.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30PM.