Librarian's Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2004

Present: Paul Kammerdiner, Jessica Rush, Maureen Watson, Joe Weber, Melinda McMartin, Richard Cochran, Yuri Konovalov, Ann Breitenwischer, Keith Upton, Rick Bearden, Scott Atwell, Carrie Forbes, Anne Kelly

Dean's Remarks

The Dean would like to encourage everyone to attend the Martin Luther King Day in-service on Monday Jan. 19th and the march on Jan. 18th. See the Campus-wide notice for additional information.

The Library will be seeing some budget reductions because of the current financial situation. The reduction in the acquisitions budget will be about $20,000. We will also see a reduction in APT and supplemental faculty money. Administrators across campus, including the Dean, Leah and Joe, may be asked to teach classes to help the University save money on supplemental faculty.

The Proquest Historical Newspapers purchase has been approved by the President's office.

There will be a presentation to the Board of Trustees regarding the implementation of Banner. Banner implementation is expected to cost around $5.2 million. The Banner system would replace our current Financial Records System (FRS), Human Resources System (HRS), and Student Information System (SIS), including Financial Aid.

Ferris was considering leaving Merit for another ISP (Charter, SBC), but Merit has now imposed a large financial penalty on any member that chooses to withdraw.

Western Michigan University's Library has been hit hard by the state budget cuts. They have very restricted hours (http://www.wmich.edu/library/hours/). FLITE has been very fortunate.

Technology Changes

Rick announced that there are now new user ID's and passwords for logging into FLITE computers. Each area has a different login. A list is available at the public service desks and there are also yellow information stickers on all of the computers. This new system will allow the IT folks to provide better maintenance and tracking of problems. They are also now able to "push" software to different groups of computers from a central location.

Windows XP is now installed on most of the computers. Every time a public computer is rebooted, added files are deleted and everything is set back to the default. Tell students not to save documents to the desktop.

The Full Control software is now gone! The disappearing menu bar and other problems associated with the control software should now be fixed.

A Novel Application Launcher will come up each time a public computer is started. This window will allow students to access some of our networked CD-ROM products like MOIS and Micromedex. The NAL will be loaded on the office computers soon.

For the new office computers with XP, you now have administrative rights to your own computer. You may download software and updates as needed, but be careful! Windows security updates will not load automatically so you should say "yes" to a download if a window pops up on your computer telling you that a new one is available. It is also recommended that you back of your personal files to a zip disk periodically.

Other News

Joe handed out a document listing suggested activities for liaison librarians. Please email any questions or comments to Joe (weberj@ferris.edu). It will be discussed at the next librarian's meeting.

Yuri wanted to know if he should mask the call number display for periodicals in the OPAC and replace it with a phrase that says "Shelved Alpha by title". Everyone agreed with the idea and felt that students are often confused by having a call # for periodicals that they can't use. The idea was also brought up that the periodicals be arranged by the call number instead of by the title. More discussion followed and it was agreed that we should discuss it at future meetings. Yuri will look into how to mask the call # in the OPAC.

Yuri wants to add some of the free resources from the Making of America (http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagrp/) to our Online Catalog. He has gotten some free MARC records, but they do not all have subject headings or call numbers. It was decided that he should add all of the records anyway and work slowly on adding subject and call # access.

Melinda informed everyone that the State Archivist will be visiting next Friday to have a tour of the archival program. Melinda is also in the process of marking books with a colored dot to indicate those that have been published by Ferris faculty members. Do not weed books that have this marking. If you don't think they should be in the stacks, Melinda will add them to the Michigan Collection.