Librarian's Meeting.   March 23, 2010   notes by Fran Rosen

Present: Maureen Watson, Stacy Anderson, Mari Kermit-Canfield, Emily Mitchell, Randall Schroeder, Dave Scott, Fran Rosen, Yuri Konovalov, Paul Kammerdiner, Scott Atwell, Melinda Isler, Rick Bearden, Ann Breitenwischer, Kristy Motz, Ali Konieczny, Leah Monger

Dave reported that Leah has had conversations with librarians & with the Provost about the spiraling cost of copyright fees for Interlibrary Loan. Dave put together information and distributed it to the librarians. Dave pointed out that curriculum change in the College of Pharmacy had resulted in a more research-oriented program. We also have more content available, and Ali is instructing students to use PubMed to find content.

Dave included a list of journals that we spend the most on for copyright fees. There was some discussion that these are health-related journals and some are getting so expensive that nobody can afford to subscribe. Dave said one proposal is to subscribe to these journals but we still wouldn't have backfiles, and it isn't always clear that we would save money. Randall said one piece of data being looked at is how many requests are for very current material to see how quickly a new subscription would start covering most of the requests. There was some discussion whether the same journals are heavily used each year. Dave said that the ILL people are now checking every request we get to see if it is available in one of our databases or packages; this is very time consuming and he thinks they are finding approximately 5-7%, maybe up to 10%, that we do have. Then they send a letter to the patron telling them this article is available through FLITE & giving instructions of how to get it.

Leah said she had talked to the Provost & his immediate response was to suggest that she talk to Ian Mathison and possibly also Ellen Haneline about these costs. Leah will set that up and include Dave and Ali. Ali asked if there was any discussion about increasing library funding to cover these costs, and Scott reiterated points made in an email he had sent before the meeting saying he felt it should not be incumbent on different departments to make up the difference for ILL-related costs. There was some additional discussion about adding subscriptions to journals that are heavily used, and some of the collection development implications. We also talked about the need for continual education on open-access journals and content in institutional repositories. Ali suggested that the PharmD program has research needs that must be met; Leah said that at this point we just need to make sure that the College of Pharmacy knows that these costs are growing rapidly and that it is an issue; and Rick suggested that it might be possible for costs to be cut by educating patrons to choose less expensive options. He said he was hearing multiple tracks, including adding cost-effective subscriptions, additional pre-searching before an ILL request is placed, better education about ILL, and talking to the Dean of the College. Rick said there might be some creative ideas that the College would have that we haven't thought of, and Leah said that maybe they can help us figure out what is going on. We agreed that the PharmD is now around 5 years old and we are seeing the effect of the changes in the program.

Dave said folks at the Reference Desk should be aware that these emails are going out to students who request articles that are available at FLITE, and he said he would send sample emails so librarians could see what they say. Leah suggested that we have further discussion with colleagues at other libraries about solutions to this problem, and Paul reflected general thinking when he said we don't want to end up discouraging students from doing research.

Leah reported on Dean's Council. They met with John Urbanik to discuss current & future Academic IT projects. John Urbanik talked about some things IT is thinking about. The Novell directory services will need to replaced soon, what we are using now is no longer supported. They are also looking at possible alternatives to Lotus Notes. There are servers in need of replacement and our current storage network will be exhausting its capacity. IT is going back to replacing computers, there are about 250 right now due for replacement; these are over 5 years old.

Ferris is looking at purchasing a new Content Management System. Rick is on the bid committee. Rick said if we had a CMS we could have our own administration for the library part of the website. The website would also be tighter, things would be done with templates and in our case Rick thinks it would be a good thing. He warned us not to expect changes for a year.

Leah said Mike Berghoef spoke to the Deans about vacancies in Academic Senate committees, and he pointed out that for 2010-2011 there are 3 committees that will have an opening for a Librarian/Counselor: the Athletic Advisory Committee, the Distinguished Teacher Committee, and the Graduate/Professional Council.

Leah said she had received a new template from Don Flickinger to use for planning for the Strategic Plan for 2010-2011. The template was distributed late with a due date of Mar 31st, the Deans said that they couldn't get it done in time if there was to be a collaborative process, so the Provost was going to get the deadline pushed back. Leah said this would be on the agenda for the next all-Staff meeting. She said it looks similar to last year's templates but the documents have been pre-populated with priorities and initiatives by the Academic Affairs Office.

Leah said the Provost gave an update from the President's Council. There is a very good chance that the MepSPIRS plan will go through. Dan Burcham is cautiously optimistic on enrollment. David Pilgrim presented the Diversity report for 2009.

Leah said she will be meeting with John Urbanik and Scott Thede to discuss IT issues including the planned layoff of Bill and Rodney.

Yuri announced that he finished the project of adding separate records for print & online versions of the same title. Please report any problems to him. He also said that the label on the link to the resource should say "connect to this electronic resource", and if it says anything else, or is a URL, please let Yuri know. Dave asked if records for e-content are

marked in OCLC & Yuri said we don't add e-only content to OCLC. Leah asked whether, with the records separated, we could add icons indicating format to the catalog. Dave said that MeLCat has that and he thinks it is very helpful.

Rick said that he & Emily will invite librarians and others to a couple of sessions on OLLARA (the ERM). We want to improve how we can communicate about resources, and it will also give access to usage reports. There are a lot of features that are public service oriented. Rick & Emily will present on OLLARA at Computers in Libraries.

Rick said he has created a link to connect to the government version of ERIC that he can get out real fast if the Proquest one stops working again. He is working on a way to get the government version to work with SFX.

Emily has taken over the FLITE Library Facebook page, and Stacy is sending out Tweets. Emily is using the boxes tab in Facebook to make the library catalog visible.

Maureen said that MHSLA has purchased a digital scanner to digitize the archives that are housed at FLITE. Ali mentioned a student looking for an Internship and it was agreed that she would send that information to Leah.