

University Library Services Committee  
Minutes from Meeting on Mar. 13, 2008

Present/Signed In: Dean/Director C. Filstrup; Chair R. Shrock; committee members: A. W. Godfrey, J. Jo, L.-S. Wang; also N. Baum and recorder/secretary M. Vigneaux

Members Absent: H. Ahn, J. Bock, B. Butt, F. Cash, S. Koch, J. Lochhead, S. Marsh, K. Nyitray, F. J. Torre, J. Yahil (see below for information on time conflict with some teaching assignments)

Minutes of 2/14/08 approved.

Although our standard meeting time conflicts with the spring-term teaching schedules of several committee members, we decided it was too difficult to change the time in mid-stream. These time conflicts account for some of the absences.

Dean and Director Chris Filstrup reviewed the academic liaisons lunch held on 2/10/08. The serials review will be limited to science journals not included in bundles. The goal is to identify \$173,000 of journals to cut in the event that the library does not receive an inflationary increase in its collections budget. The library expects inflation to run close to 10% because of the declining dollar. Chris Filstrup will follow up the lunch with an email to all academic liaisons. Prof. Shrock discussed the ongoing prioritization process being carried out by the library committee of the Physics/Astronomy Department to select which journal subscriptions will be cut in order to reduce costs by this figure of 10 %.

Chris Filstrup reviewed the work of the New York State Higher Education Initiative (NYSHEI). As a result of NYSHEI testimony before the Commission on Higher Education and a subsequent meeting with Lloyd Constantine, top aide of the former New York State Governor, E. Spitzer, the Commission report includes a recommendation that the state begin a fund that would enable NYSHEI to license electronic resources on a state-wide basis. This would benefit all the academic libraries of New York and would contribute significantly to the innovative economy promulgated by Spitzer. With Spitzer and Constantine gone, NYSHEI will work on the legislative budget but needs to create new contacts in the governor's office. It remains to be seen whether Paterson will continue Spitzer's pro-education stance.

Julitta Jo stated that the outside review team has delivered a draft report. HSL staff will reply. The final report will be posted on the web for review.

Nathan Baum demonstrated a new federated search engine which enables a user to search multiple sources with a single search. Baum gave the Wikipedia definition of federated searching as (1) transforming a [query](#) and broadcasting it to a group of disparate databases with the appropriate syntax, (2) merging the results collected from the databases, (3) presenting them in a succinct and unified format with minimal duplication, and (4) providing a means, performed either automatically or by the portal user, to sort the merged result set. This is highly advantageous to undergraduate students who are not sure where to search and to faculty who wants to search outside their familiar resources. This search engine harvests from the different sources and displays them on the fly, showing how many hits are in each resource. Currently, the federated search engine searches 50 targets, including indexes, aggregated databases with full

text, and STARS. The federated default is Quick Search which searches a preselected set of resources. However, a user can select the specific resources. For example, if one is looking for a science topic, then one could select biology + chemistry. The libraries plan to add more databases. After spring break, the campus community will be made aware of Galaxy and workshops will be offered through Library Instruction. There will be a short questionnaire online and feedback is encouraged!

Chris Filstrup gave a brief overview of the design of the new library at Southampton. The main floor includes many computer workstations, standard tables and carrels, “living room” furniture, and a café. SBU plans to complete construction in summer 2009 and will build to a high “green” standard – e.g., a highly efficient power supply, and furnishings made of bamboo and other sustainable materials. The lower level is to be high tech classrooms and computer labs and the upper level a loft devoted to the writing program. Filstrup shared a five-year budget request which accommodates the move to the new building, management of the Pollock-Krasner collection, and growth of students and curriculum. The Southampton library will have access to all of the library’s electronic resources, and print materials purchased for Southampton will be available to West Campus users via shipment to Interlibrary Loan.

Our next meeting will be on April 10.

The subsequent meetings will be on May 8 and (for those who are here after the end of the spring semester) June 12