Council on Libraries
Meeting of June 7, 2007


Excused: Teoby Gomez, Alisa Koonce, Mary Munter.

The meeting opened at 12:08pm.

1. Introductions of attendees.

2. Minutes of the April 5, 2007 meeting were approved.

3. Announcements (Jeffrey Horrell, Dean of the Libraries and Librarian of the College): Jeff presented a brochure for visitors to Wenda Gu’s “The Green House” Project, which opened on June 6 and is on display at Baker-Berry library until October 28; the new brochure for the Orozco murals, with the announcement that an audio tour podcast for the frescoes can be downloaded at www.dartmouth.edu/~libcirc/tours/orozco/podcast/; and news of the Student Bookplate program, which honors all graduating student employees of the library (see the article in Vox at www.dartmouth.edu/~vox/0607/0528/bookplate.html).

4. Website Redesign (Cynthia Pawlek, Associate Librarian of the College)

   The new website, to be launched in the fall, is presently being tested as a prototype. It offers a quick search area on the first page, brings a number of important service links to the top level, and displays more prominently access to experts.

5. Duplicate Materials (Elizabeth Kirk, Associate Librarian for Information Resources)

   A new program to manage duplicate materials is now running through Better World - Books, a service which disperses them with 15% of the profits going to Dartmouth and 5% to World Fund, the educational charity headed by Dartmouth alumna and history major (!) Luanne Zurlo.

6. The Library’s Self-Study (Cynthia Pawlek, Associate Librarian of the College; David Seaman, Associate Librarian for Information Management)

   The faculty’s participation in the focus groups was moderate; the online undergraduate survey, on the other hand, produced a very good (20%) return and provided staff with excellent
feedback. Focus group meetings for Medical School, Tuck, and Thayer students are ongoing.

David reported on a rather eye-opening visit with Phillips Andover seniors, whose expectations of library service are best summarized by the keywords “speed”, “online”, and “one-click”. Wikipedia is the source of choice. Books are deemed useful to provide “a competitive edge”. Some students appreciated old-fashioned library space. The self-study report will be completed at the end of July. The Council will have an opportunity to discuss the report in the Fall in advance of the External Review Teams visit, October 28-30, 2007.

7. Expansion of Search 360 (Elizabeth Kirk, Associate Librarian for Information Resources)

Testing of the Beta-phase of the “Search 360” service, which allows simultaneous searches in over 360 databases, has proven the program to be stable and working well; the new version will be the default version starting June 11, 2007.

8. Dartmouth’s “Author’s Amendment” (Elizabeth Kirk, Associate Librarian for Information Resources).

The current version (see www.dartmouth.edu/~libcoll/Dartmouth.Authors.Amendment.pdf) has now been brought before the Provost’s Academic Council, which provided useful feedback. It was also approved by the Council of Sponsored Projects and will be presented to other Councils in the fall term, while librarians will help to inform and “sensitize” (dixit Bob Graves) the faculty.

9. Other business

David Seaman drew attention to the problem of how to make theses in Dartmouth’s collection more widely available. Digitization seems to be the best and easiest procedure, but authors may object. Plans are being developed to make Dartmouth dissertations and theses available digitally.

Jeff thanked Walter Simons for his chairing the Council this year and leading a set of productive discussions.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.