

## Council on the Libraries Meeting of March 6, 2008

Present: Douglas Bolger, Kirk Endicott, Robert Graves, Jeffrey Horrell, Elizabeth Kirk, Mary Munter, Cynthia Pawlek, David Seaman, Barry Scherr, Roxana Verona, Kent Yrchik-Shoemaker, David Webb, Walter Simons.

Excused: Alisa Koonce, Ellen Waite-Franzen, Sara Walker

The meeting opened at 12:10pm.

1. Introductions of attendees.
2. Minutes of the February 7, 2008 meeting were approved.
3. Library's External Review (Barry Scherr, Provost)  
After a brief sketch of the procedure followed and the organization of the review, Barry extended thanks to all participants and expressed his satisfaction with the review's conclusions. As we all expected, the library's staff drew uniformly praise from all parties questioned, and there was a general agreement that the library communicated well with the rest of the campus. Some of the issues recognized by the review were also anticipated: the library's limited resources, for instance, or the need for a new or expanded storage facility. While new, large expenses pose obvious challenges for a relatively small institution like Dartmouth, they can be managed if they are temporary. A chronic deficit, however, is a greater concern. A special effort in fund-raising will be necessary. Finally, Barry underscored the call for better coordination of institutional academic planning and library management (as Jeff Horrell pointed out, the McKinsey report raised this issue earlier). Bob Graves drew attention to new questions on the use of space: how can we best support new types of interaction between students/patrons and collections within the library? He regretted that the review committee did not meet with faculty and students of the professional schools and that the report did not specifically address their needs.

In response to a question by Kirk Endicott, Jeff reported that the current fund raising campaign has generated so far only a small fraction of the goal set for the library; evidently, much more needs to be done. Doug Bolger was interested in the follow-up; Barry and Jeff expected the report to focus on institutional attention but thought that the outcome will manifest itself over a number of years.

4. Next Generation Library Systems Planning (David Seaman, Associate Librarian for Information Management)  
David announced that a small panel of six people (with three internal and three external members) has been set up to report on the practical implications of an integrated library system by June 1.
5. Announcements  
Mary Munter noted an upcoming curriculum review at the Tuck School, and Jeff informed the meeting that a general survey of library users (LibQUAL+) will be conducted in April.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.