Council on the Libraries
Meeting of November 6, 2008

Present: Peter Collins, Sean Currey, Kirk Endicott, Robert Graves, Jeffrey Horrell, Hussein Kadhim, Elizabeth Kirk, Mark Mounts, Cynthia Pawlek, David Seaman, Barry Scherr, Roxana Verona, Ellen Waite-Franzen, David Webb, Walter Simons.

Excused: Mary Munter, Michael Dietrich, Sara Walker.

The meeting opened at 12:05pm.

1. Introductions of attendees.

2. Visiting scholars' privileges and procedures for visitors leaving the college (Peter Collins, Access Services Librarian, Baker-Berry Library).
   The libraries have been most generous in extending access to members of the community—far more so than most academic libraries. Peter shared with the Council his concerns about visiting scholars, who generally receive borrowing privileges at the simple request of a faculty member but sometimes fail to return items when their term comes to an end. The most sensible solution is to seek the help of the host department to return all materials. Kirk Endicott noted that greater department cooperation is only possible if the department's role is better defined from the start. The consensus was to set up a more formal system to give visitors the privileges they need, in cooperation with the host department, which should share the responsibility to hold visitors accountable.

3. E-journals and deaccessioning print copies (Eliz Kirk, Associate Librarian for Information Resources)
   Much has changed since serials started to appear in electronic format. As Eliz explained, the present environment allows libraries greater opportunities to make informed choices about how best to provide efficient access to serials, whether in print   format. The emergence of third-party escrow services and multiple repository systems offer more guaranties of full, uninterrupted access. Decisions are best made through ongoing conversations between librarians and individual departments to weigh the need for multiple formats, most efficient use of space, costs, and protecting optimal access. Council members wondered about ways to c   rdinate actions taken by individual libraries in our region (Elsevier's actually informs libraries that are the sole owners of their titles in the region), and what happens if a digital journal drops an article after initial publication (it is archived). Obviously, further use of digital collections will save much needed space.

4. Single sign-on application and Pathfinder Pro (Mark Mounts, Business and Engineering Reference Librarian and Digital Library Specialist). Mark led the Council in an exploration of a simplified sign-on procedure for the Library's website, available at the end of the fall term, and of a new feature (Pathfinder Pro) added to the catalog that provides the ability to link to external sources from the browse and full record displays. Links, for instance to Amazon or WorldCat, can be defined in a context sensitive manner. If the book is checked out, a link to BorrowDirect will appear to the right of the catalog entry. Similarly, the user can find links to book reviews, article searches, etc. For a tryout, visit: http://libcat.dartmouth.edu:2082/

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.