

## Council on the Libraries Meeting of March 6, 2009

Present: Sean Currey, Veronika Fuechnter, Robert Graves, Jeffrey Horrell, Gary Johnson, Hussein Kadhim, Elizabeth Kirk, Casey Murray, Cynthia Pawlek, Barry Scherr, David Seaman, Chris Snyder, Jennifer Taxman, Ellen Waite-Franzen, Sara Walker, David Webb, Walter Simons.

The meeting opened at 12:07pm.

1. Introductions of attendees.
2. The minutes of the February 5, 2009 meeting were approved.
3. The Fiscal Year Budget. Update (Jeffrey Horrell, Dean of Libraries and Librarian of the College). Following the College's budget reconciliation plans adopted in January, the Library is implementing a plan to reduce its budget from unrestricted funds by 10.7%, starting on July 1, 2009. Jeff gave further details on how this will be done. In staffing, four currently vacant positions and three actually filled positions (Communications and Web Manager; Technology Coordinator in Library Administration, Document Delivery Assistant in Access Services) are eliminated. In collections, access to certain databases will be reduced, without any cancellations, however, of serials and monographs; finally several items of the operational budget, notably in travel, training, binding (50% reduction) and various amenities. The Medical School and Biomedical libraries are anticipating possible cuts as well. Eliz Kirk added that bibliographers are now going through databases to identify and eliminate (in consultation with academic departments) possible duplication. Bob Graves asked about the possibilities of increasing revenues; Jeff was skeptical about that option, given the setbacks that development is currently experiencing in the deteriorating economic environment. Gary Johnson warned that these efforts should not endanger the long-term tasks of the libraries as depositories. In the ensuing discussion, members of the Council allowed that the measures so far appear to aim at trimming on the edges of the budget, but they expressed concern about the future.
4. Storage Facility (Jennifer Taxman, Head of Access Services)  
Jennifer gave an overview of the final report prepared by the Storage Planning Working Group. It envisages a) Immediate action: creating space in the current location by de-accession of JStor (print) materials and selective transfer to electronic resources; b) in a next stage (2009-13), utilizing additional storage options, such as parts of the Record Management Facility; c) finally (2014-), investing in a new storage facility, for which several options are to be considered, including a collaborative project. Eliz Kirk noted that less than 1% of the journal titles (in print) will be de-accessed; they are archived in JStor. Faculty will be consulted to determine if there is value in preserving print copies.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 pm.