

Council on the Libraries
Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Present: Molly Carpenter, Jonathan Erdman '12, Lisa Fleischer, Robert Graves, Jeffrey Horrell, Douglas Irwin, Elizabeth Kirk, Hussein Kadhim, Klaus Mladek, Cynthia Pawlek, David Seaman

The meeting began at 12:05pm.

1. Irwin opened the meeting with a round of introductions.
2. The minutes from the February meeting were approved.
3. Jeffrey Horrell and Elizabeth Kirk reported on a major acquisition, the retrospective digital collection in sciences. The digital collection greatly expands access of early and current health and science periodicals. The electronic backfile in journals is a major asset. The acquisition also helps save space in the biomedical library, which is currently full.
4. Jeffrey Horrell reported that the fiscal year '12 budget is near completion and will allow for about a 3.75 percent increase in the unrestricted funds for collections. With the endowment and bequest funds also growing, the collections budget has stabilized, despite our loss in buying power over the past two years. In addition, the library is looking to hire an additional staff member to oversee the efficiency of the collections purchases and to coordinate collections with other BorrowDirect affiliated libraries.
5. Elizabeth Kirk reported that a storage planning group has been formed to look at the options for expanding storage space. The last report was 2-3 years ago, and this current report should be available by late-May. The options include a new or expansion of the current local storage facility, available for College use (servicing Hopkins Center and Hood Museum materials as well), or a joint regional facility with other BorrowDirect libraries. Options will be presented to the Provost.
6. Jeffrey Horrell reported on the Baker Main hall renovation. The new hall has proven very popular with students. There will be some fine tuning of window treatments, etc., and the coffee bar might be up and running within two months.
7. Cynthia Pawlek reported that the Berry Information Desk plan is proceeding and should be completed by the start of summer term. This involves moving the reference desk to near the Berry staircase and the addition of three consultation rooms in that area.
8. The meeting ended at approximately 1:20 pm.