

Ohio State University Libraries
Faculty Meeting - Minutes
February 10, 2009

1. Director's Report.

Joe Branin will be leaving Ohio State for a position as Director at a new science/technology university in Saudi Arabia. He will be here through 8/31/09. Academic Affairs is hoping to complete the search for Joe's successor before then, but it will likely take longer than expected. They will probably use a search firm and a search committee for recruitment. Joe has recommended that the Provost appoint an internal Interim Director.

Our budget is still on track to finish the year without deficit. We started our budget reduction plans last summer. These plans will need to continue through this fiscal year and probably through next year. If the state economy worsens, any resulting cuts would be in addition to our current reduction plans. Our budget request for next year includes some help paying for our POM (plant operations and maintenance). Initial word from OAA is that we will get some help, but probably not all we requested. Our budget request also includes \$700,000 in new funds for acquisitions. This would be shared proportionately with HEA and LAW. Joe still believes we will need to reduce the size of our staff. It is not likely that we will be able to hire from outside the system for the next year. We must be willing to take on new assignments.

Thompson Library renovation continues to be on schedule and on budget. We are still planning to take possession of the building in May. A soft opening is still planned for August. We are still planning to move technical services from Ackerman into renovated space in Sullivant, but at an accelerated pace. We hope to have the space ready in 6 months instead of 1 year. We are still working on moving the Cartoon Research Library to Sullivant. We need to raise \$20.6M for the renovation. Preparations for the closing of the Business Library are in process. Administration is looking at hours of operation system wide. Can we afford to maintain longer hours in 17 buildings? They are looking at data-driven proposals for which libraries maintain hours and which are reduced. We are likely to end up with more uniform hours system wide. Changes are likely to come at the beginning of summer quarter.

Joe referred to a document he had forwarded from the Provost (*Principles for Faculty Reward Systems in a High Performance Academic Culture*). He recommends that we discuss it at a future faculty meeting. He has met recently with the Committee of Full Professors to discuss some questions about promotion to Professor. Overall, we are doing a good job with our promotion/tenure and evaluation processes, but we need to be as clear as possible about performance expectations.

In response to a question about OSU:pro and our FARs, Eric Schnell mentioned that AP&T is working on a mock profile to serve as example for those of us who still need to convert our FARs to OSU:pro format.

2. Committee Reports.

Representatives from the Collections Advisory Council, Digital Initiatives Steering Committee, Web Implementation Committee, and Web Visioning Committee presented highlights of their annual reports and answered questions.

Jim Bracken (CAC) noted that OhioLINK CIRM has recommended that we prepare for the possibility of a 5% cut in the budget for databases and the EJC. OhioLINK will not continue to pursue the Blackwell/Wiley e-book deal.

Brian McMichael (Web Implementation) noted that the new OSUL website is expected to be live in time for the opening of Thompson Library. For the next 6 months, the committee will continue to develop the new site, then begin evaluation once it goes live.

Larry Allen (Web Visioning) noted that the committee has worked with focus groups and web surveys to assess the ease of use of our site. Many have noted difficulty with adding content to our site. His committee has been working with the Web Implementation Team on our move to the content management system.

Wes Boomgaarden (Digital Initiatives Steering Committee) noted that the charge for his group was revised last summer. DISC's main roles are to support the mainstreaming of digital initiatives, to empower other library personnel to promote and use the library's digital products and services, and generally to help OSUL personnel realize digital projects.

3. Digital Initiatives Steering Committee - Two Imaging Projects

Members of DISC introduced two recent projects and answered many questions. Nena Couch introduced and demonstrated the Daphne Dare collection from the Theatre Research Institute Library (TRI) (<http://drc.ohiolink.edu/handle/2374.OX/30999>). This collection includes about 1200 scanned objects. Items were scanned and descriptive records were created at TRI. The collection is hosted at the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons.

Amy McCrory introduced and demonstrated *The Lantern* (<http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Default/Skins/Ohio/Client.asp?Skin=Ohio&AppName=2>). This project was funded by the University two years ago. The source material for the project comes from the School of Communication and University Archives. Issues from 1959-1972 are expected to be fully public within the next two weeks. The next phase of the project will be to scan the remaining issues, starting in 1881 and ending with 1997.

Bruce Leach
Faculty Secretary