Senate Library Advisory Committee
Minutes of the November 30, 2000 Meeting

Present: Tim Crimmins; William Evans; James Heitzman; Julie Hotchkiss; Philo Hurcheson, Chair, Charlene Hurt; Nina Keyser; Roger Presley, Guest; Michael Vaughn; and Linda Vincent.

Philo Hurcheson called the meeting to order and asked that each person introduce him/herself and say what unit they were from.

Hutcheson acknowledged Michael Vaughn's email to numerous people in the University administration about the Library's budget. He felt that this "unofficial" avenue of communication from a faculty member was very useful.

Charlene Hurt then discussed the charts that had been distributed to the Committee (see attached). There was considerable discussion about the charts comparing GSU's library budgets to its peer institutions' budgets for books and serials, and in particular for the top three schools in the chart. Tim Crimmins thought it might be useful to have another chart that just showed the book and serials budgets of each institution, leaving out the total budget. Hurt stated that overall, no matter how you looked at the data, these figures do indicate that we're starting to fall behind in comparative funding for library materials.

Because some of the charts distributed were revisions of previous charts, it was recommended by Hurt that all of the charts show a number and date on them to help keep track of which revision we're looking at.

The Committee then discussed the Pullen Library's ratio of spending between books and serials. Crimmins recommended that we look at the balance we currently have between the two groups. It was recommended that we have a faculty liaison meeting to talk about the book budget and how it is distributed. Roger Presley said that the Head of Collection Development was working on a proposal to Charlene Hurt Regarding having a possible meeting in the spring, especially since we did not have the Annual Liaison meeting last year.

The Committee then looked at the chart comparing library expenditures per FTE for the 16 institutions. Crimmins said that it would be useful to show what the mean was on this data. Perhaps there could be a line drawn in the chart showing the mean from which each institution would fall above or below. James Heitzman said that from looking at the chart that it would only take about $100,000 to push us ahead of our current point of the chart.

Charlene Hurt also pointed out that we were purchasing several electronic books and collections using Student Technology Fees that came to approximately $26,000. This was to include Rocket books, the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, and a collection of technology books called 24x7. She invited the Committee membership to view what will be available in this collection by going to www.books24x7.com.

Nina Keyser, a student representative on the Committee, said that it was her understanding that the Student Technology Fees were meant to increase and improve computer facilities and labs as opposed to increasing library content. Bill Evans said that the students wanted the electronic books with some of the Student Technology Fees as long as we didn't use this money to cover library budget shortfalls.

Tim Crimmins asked if all of the charts could be sent to the Committee membership via email. Roger Presley
said that they could do this.

Charlene Hurt then talked about the selected list of journal and other serial titles that had been canceled because of duplication in other formats. These cancellations helped the library cover the inflationary costs for journals. Primarily these are titles that are now available electronically. He was told that yes the Faculty liaisons are and would be consulted.

In summary, it was decided that we should ask for an additional $100,00 in library funding, roughly $5 more per student. All charts will be issued via email to the Committee membership. We will look at this new money going mainly into books to support new programs. Tim Crimmins pointed out that $30,000 of this additional money would come from Student Technology Fees and $70,000 from the state budget. Thus, this could mean an additional $70,000 in contingency funding for 2001. The use of the Student Technology Fee would only be for this year (FY01).

Charlene Hurt announced that there will be a grand opening of the new Media Center on LS2 on December 6, 2000, from 1-3:00 P.M. She also pointed out that one way to help the library's collections budget is to give to the library's general endowment, so, as you make donations to the Capital Campaign, don't forget the library and designate it for receiving part of your gifts to the University.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger L. Presley