Present: Philo Hutcheson (Chair), Charlene Hurt, Joan Stephens (Guest), and Linda Vincent.

The meeting opened with general discussion about the budget and the uncertainty of the amount or availability of contingency funds next fiscal year, mainly due to budgets being more accurately projected. The goal is to increase the base budget and rely less on contingency funds. Program reviews are anticipated to occur to assist in covering a possible budget deficit resulting in targeted cuts instead of across the broad cuts.

C. Hurt announced the remediation project for Library South has been approved and that she has been informed that she would be consulted when the time arrived to select replacement material.

C. Hurt provided several statistical charts on Pullen’s book budget. J. Stephens was in attendance to field any technical questions that might arise. An analysis of the charts seem to support that Pullen’s book budget has not kept pace with the CPI.

The chart representing the cumulative percentage of increases in book prices charts a steep decline from 1998 to 1999. This may be a result of the initiation of the approval plan.

The data shows a growth in Pullen’s collection in all formats. P. Hutcheson made a recommendation to further expand the chart showing the change in electronic resources to reflect the number of vendors supplying both print and electronic to vendors supplying only electronic resources.

C. Hurt indicated that some of the titles represented in the electronic resources are databases and don’t necessarily show the true number of titles. One solution may be to add a caption to the chart noting the number of a title may include up to 100 journals.

The chart showing the relationship of total budget to electronic expenditures from fiscal year 96-00 appeared to be misleading. P. Hutcheson recommended, if possible, changing the comparison to reflect a change in the percentage increase of the total budget to that of electronic expenditures.

C. Hurt also recommended adding text/data to the charts.

C. Hurt indicated that you couldn’t always trust the assumption that purchasing more electronic resources will reduce the book budget. Pullen has a number of databases outside of those linked in Galileo that may have IP restriction and can’t be reached off campus.

C. Hurt announced acquisition of netLibrary, which was acquired through a consortium. NetLibrary provides access to electronic books (eBooks) and allows on-line checkout of two hours. It was approved that funds from the student technology fee could be used to continue netLibrary after this fiscal year. The questions still yet to be answered are whether Pullen should continue to receive scholarly books if they are available on netLibrary; what percentage of users will continue to be resistant to electronic format; and whether or not to pursue portable eBooks.

C. Hurt stated that another possibility for student technology fee funds is to make available Books24X7 or Earthweb/ITK, both of which publish electronic books in the rapidly changing field of information technology.
C. Hurt stated that Science Direct titles would be reviewed this year to determine whether or not the electronic resource is sufficient.

C. Hurt made available Pullen’s 1999-2000 Annual Report. The report is also available electronically for those who prefer an electronic copy to a hardcopy.

For the next meeting, Committee members will be asked to review revised budget charts and be prepared for discussion.

C. Hurt announced Pullen’s Media Center is in the process of moving from the seventh to the second floor, and will be open for patrons on October 2, 2000.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Carmen Newton
Library Human Resources Officer
Recorder