Minutes of Senate Library Advisory Committee Meeting  
Monday, February 11, 2008 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Library South 7th Fl., Conference Room

Present

Deron Boyles, Stephen B. Dobranski, Robin Y. Huff, Charlene Hurt, Nancy Johnson, Brenda Mills, (Recorder), Janaia Moore, Bill Prigge, Tammy Sugarman, Ram Sriram, and Leonard Teel

Review of Minutes

I. The minutes from the November 12, 2007 meeting were approved.


Dean Charlene Hurt began the discussion by distributing two charts (handouts): One showing Library gate statistics from the past four fiscal years, and statistics showing comparative circulation numbers from 2003 to 2007. Charlene indicated that during 2006 prior to the Learning Commons opening, the numbers were much lower. The second chart showed Library gate statistics for the months of July through December, 2007, which showed a total of 913,849 patrons entering the library. Charlene explained that this number exceeds the library’s annual occupancy expectations.

Charlene pointed out shortages in some of the statistics because of gates not working during certain periods, and because the Library North doors were closed for a certain period. Charlene informed the group that a turnstile was installed in Library South that we hope will give a more accurate reading of patrons entering through the turnstiles, and if it works one will be installed in Library North as well. Charlene also stated that the decreases in patron numbers during the last four fiscal years were affected by the library door closures, inoperable gates, ongoing construction and the use of electronic services by library patrons.

Comparative Circulation Statistics (bottom of blue handout) – Charlene explained that these numbers were physical circulation of items which show a decline in numbers because of the increase in
Tammy Sugarman distributed a handout detailing usage of databases according to Total Searches and Sessions by Month for 2007. The data is COUNTER compliant.

Deron Boyles asked Tammy Sugarman what significance or conclusions can be drawn from the database statistics. Tammy replied that low use databases are evaluated by librarians to see if they still meet the needs of our patrons.

Tammy Sugarman also distributed a handout regarding Elsevier Science Direct – Freedom Collection. Tammy Sugarman explained how the database statistics were used to determine those titles that should be subscriptions rather than access only.

Deron Boyles questioned Tammy Sugarman regarding her selection of publishers from which she received her data. Tammy Sugarman replied that she used a variety of databases to show usage in various subject areas.

III. Budget

Charlene informed the committee that she went to FACP to speak about budgetary needs and distributed a handout detailing University Library Funding Request and Outcomes for FY-08 and University Library Funding Request – Looking ahead to FY-09. Charlene stated the amount of the Freedom Collection for FY-08 and what amounts will be needed to maintain current subscriptions. FACP voted to support buying Early English Books On-Line, (EEBO) and the Provost made a commitment to cover the continuing costs. Charlene stated that the majority of electronic resources needed are not one-time purchases, but are subscriptions which increase in price every year. FACP agreed to move the Library out of contingency funding over the next four years, with the new money to be included in the budget instead of contingency monies. Charlene stated that the Association Research Libraries (ARL) will not grant GSU library membership unless GSU’s library has reliable sustained funding. Charlene went on to say that the library has over one and one-half million volumes available, and with the construction of the new library building and greatly improved resources GSU’s library may be eligible to join the ARL in other areas.

FY-09 - Inflation is estimated at 8%. Charlene told the committee that more databases will be purchased to help with overall collections thanks to student funding that covered building expenses.
and allowed monies to be used in other areas.

IV. Digital Archives – Tammy Sugarman – Two-hundred and twenty (220) items are now in the repository. Publishers were contacted and asked for permission to put items in the Digital Archives. Sara Fuchs went to several departments with liaisons to talk about the Digital Archives. For example, she went to the Computer Science department, which is interested in uploading technical reports not published or available elsewhere online.

V. Update - Dean of Library Search – Deron Boyles updated the group regarding the candidates who applied for the Dean of Libraries position. Three candidates have been selected and scheduled to interview during the month of March.

Deron Boyles reported that once all schedules are confirmed, the university will move forward with reference checks and make the candidates information public.

VI. Announcements – Library Research Award – Charlene announced to the group that twenty-four (24) applicants applied for the research award. The applicants consist of six (6) - 1000/2000 level students and eighteen - 3000/4000 level students.

Charlene reported that the books are all moved and bound periodicals are being moved back onto the shelves on LS7.

Professor Leonard Teel announced that the Department of Journalism Historic Society will be having a book sale on April 1, 2008. The book sale will raise funds to send students to journalism conferences. Professor Teal asked the group to donate any used books they may have.

Deron Boyles announced that the SLAC committee will not meet in March. Candidates for the Dean of Libraries position will be interviewing at GSU during that time.

VII. Other Business – No other business was discussed.

VIII. Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 10:30AM.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.