

**University Committee on Library  
Minutes of the Meeting of September 15, 2005  
4 – 5 pm Foster Room**

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**Present:** Chair, David Smith. Committee members Susan Blum, Roger Jacobs, Charles Rosenberg, Parker Ladwig, John Robinson, Semion Lyandres, Laurence Taylor, John Weber, Gordon Wishon, Jennifer Younger, Andrew Sommese, and Carol Hendrickson (student)

**Absent:** Agnes Ostafin, Brian Pitts (graduate student)

**Observers / guests:** Nigel Butterwick, Kitty Hoyer (recorder)

**Call to order** at 4 pm by Chair, David Smith

### **Welcome and Introductions**

David Smith, UCL Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance, especially the newest members of the committee – Semion Lyandres (Humanities), Laurence Taylor (Science), John Robinson (Law), and Carol Hendrickson (undergraduate student representative).

### **Election of UCL Chair**

After brief introductions from each of the members, David Smith directed the committee to the first item of business on the day's agenda – the election of a new committee chair. After opening the floor for discussion, Smith made a motion nominating John Weber (Business) to serve as the new chair. The nomination was seconded by Roger Jacobs (Law). There was no additional discussion. Weber was unanimously elected UCL chair for the 2005 – 2006 academic year. Smith then turned control of the meeting over to John Weber.

Noting that he has been instrumental in raising awareness for the UCL throughout campus, Jennifer Younger commended David Smith for his 2 years of outstanding service to the committee. Chuck Rosenberg made a motion that the UCL formally recognizes David Smith for his outstanding contributions and years of dedicated service to the UCL. The motion was seconded by Semion Lyandres and passed unanimously.

### **Minutes**

The May 6, 2005 minutes (with typographical corrections as noted) were voted on and approved unanimously by the committee

### **Recognitions**

The University Committee on Libraries recognizes Melodie Eiteljorge, Senior Administrative Staff Assistant, for her 25 years of superior service to the University of Notre Dame libraries.

The University Committee on Libraries recognizes Librarian Eric Lease Morgan, recipient of the 2005 Rev. Paul J. Foik, C.S.C. Award. The Foik Award, given annually to a library faculty member who has contributed significantly to library service, the Notre Dame community, or the library profession, recognized Morgan for, among other things, his "tireless efforts to elicit input from library users while the Web page was being created and modified."

### **UCL Chair's Report**

New committee chair John Weber, proposed the following UCL meeting schedule for the 2005-2006 academic year. Although UCL meetings will continue to take place on a monthly basis (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday), Weber proposed an alternating early morning (7:30 am) and afternoon (3:30 pm) schedule to allow committee members with class or similar conflicts a greater opportunity to

participate in UCL meetings. The meeting location would also alternate accordingly. Proposed UCL meeting dates/times are as follows:

October 13, 2005	3:30 pm (Rm 222 Hesburgh Library)
November 10, 2005	7:30 am (Grace Hall – Café DeGrasta)
December 8, 2005	3:30 pm (Lafortune – Foster Room)
January 2006	No meeting scheduled
February 9, 2006	7:30 am (Grace Hall – Café DeGrasta)
March 9, 2006	3:30 pm (Lafortune – Foster Room)
April 13, 2006	7:30 am (Grace Hall – Café DeGrasta)

After a brief discussion regarding individual member conflicts, Susan Blum made a motion in favor of the alternating UCL meeting schedule for 2005-06 as proposed by John Weber. The motion was seconded by Carol Hendrickson and passed.

Weber called upon past chair Dave Smith to give an update on the current status of the 2004-2005 UCL Annual Report. Draft copies of the report were distributed to all UCL members for their review prior to the meeting. Weber encouraged new UCL members to fully review the draft report. Having already incorporated a number of changes previously submitted by committee members, Smith urged the committee to approve the draft report as soon as possible.

Andrew Sommese motioned for the committee to approve – subject only to non-substantive changes – the 2004-05 UCL Draft Annual Report. Semion Lyandres seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion followed on proposed changes to the annual report. Chuck Rosenberg asked for clarification and additional information to be included on the “Campus and external grants and funding” section located on page 5 of the report. Noting that she will make appropriate edits and update the section immediately, Younger directed the committee to a discrepancy in the language on page 1 describing our Association of Research Library rank as including “holdings,” which requires further explanation, since that term does not accurately reflect the overall quality of today’s libraries. Smith agreed to amend accordingly.

In response to concerns raised by both Susan Blum and Parker Ladwig, Smith explained his rationale for including the statement (on page one) “Notre Dame does not have a great library.” After a discussion on “greatness” and what constitutes a “great” library, Smith agreed to re-write the paragraph with more specificity and to distribute the new draft for the committee’s final review. In an effort to expedite the process and have the final report in time for the next Academic Council, Weber asked the committee to review the changes and vote on the proposed final draft via email.

The meeting then shifted to a discussion of the status of UCL web site. Younger volunteered that, at the direction of the Committee, Melodie Eiteljorge, Senior Administrative Staff Assistant, is available to continue posting documents and maintaining the accuracy of information on the UCL web site. Smith also volunteered to continue helping with refinement of the UCL web site and suggested that the UCL might learn something from contacting developers of the Faculty Board on Athletics web site. In response to a question from Parker Ladwig, Smith indicated that there is a link to the UCL web site on the main page of the library web site, but that the link is in danger of moving off the main page into the ‘more’ category if more “spotlights” are added to the main library web page. Younger affirmed the library commitment to maintaining the link from the main page. Rosenberg commented that he thought the UCL web site is well written.

### **Update on Springer – Kluwer e-journals**

Weber asked Associate Director for User Services Nigel Butterwick to update the committee on recent developments concerning the University’s e-journal subscriptions. Butterwick prefaced his remarks with an overview of the events leading up to what some described as a “crisis situation” in 2004. The use of e-journal packages from vendors such as Springer and Kluwer was deemed

“insufficient to justify the high cost” and caused the Library to quickly develop an alternative plan for potentially re-subscribing to some of its higher use journals on an individual basis, while opting out of certain journal packages (because of high and fast rising costs). A Library Task Force was appointed to investigate the situation. Recognizing the need for broader campus-wide input on this complex and controversial issue, the Provost’s Office stepped in and funded the packages for one more year, thus deferring a final decision on the future of e-journal packages until this year.

Circumstances have changed substantially since the e-journal issue was first presented over a year ago. The Springer and Kluwer companies have actually merged, resulting in a number of additional pricing revisions. Additional economic factors, as well as the changing scope of campus scholarship, technology and staffing weigh heavily on the decision to cancel or revise our current e-journal subscriptions. Describing the decision as having a “significant impact” on the University community as a whole, Weber asked Butterwick and the committee to “keep close tabs on the pulse” of the company’s reactions and resulting activities.

### **Director’s Report**

Younger briefly explained portions of the instructions from the Provost governing annual reports for the academic year 2004/05 and described the library report as having two components; a summary or “diary of events” portion, as well as a “mission or message focused” portion. It is the latter section, explained Younger, which describes the “plight of the Library” in more detail -- adding that much of the “mission focused” portion of the report will guide the work of this committee. Overall, Younger described the Library as having “an overall good year,” she reported on a number of notable achievements that occurred during the last academic year. Topping her list was the addition of three new faculty members: Julie Arnott, Head, Preservation Department; Joe Holtermann, Head, Serial Acquisitions Department; and Aedin Clements, Irish Studies Librarian. Younger indicated that the library has also been working diligently to develop a service which allows e-reserves content to be included inside individual course sections in WebCT Vista, using a link to our new electronic reserves management system. The result is an electronic reserve system with a major step forward in improved productivity for faculty and library staff. Initial reaction to the new program has been quite positive. Younger also described access to the “unique holdings” within the Indiana statewide holdings catalogue as an “added benefit” for faculty and students. She briefly touched upon the subject of “recall success” and asked that the topic be included as an agenda item for a future meeting. Younger concluded her report by specifically recognizing the “remarkable achievements and superb leadership” of Gordon Wishon who recently accepted the CIO Magazine’s “Bold 100” Award. Wishon stated that “This award is a testament to the hard work of many, many people across the University.”

### **Academic Libraries of Indiana Direct Request Pilot Project**

Nigel Butterwick outlined a new statewide initiative to try to streamline the current library loan procedures by essentially eliminating one of the key steps in the process. The 3 month (January – March 2006) pilot project will enable users to make “direct requests” to other Indiana academic libraries for library materials, resulting in faster access to the desired resources. A discussion comparing the relative advantages and disadvantages of the current WorldCAT system with the Direct Request Pilot Project followed. In response to a question raised by Susan Blum regarding potential effects on inter-library loan staff assignments, Younger emphasized no positions would be in jeopardy under the plan. Instead, she argued, the workload would remain constant as the actual “volume” of direct requests “skyrocket”. Additional questions and concerns were discussed including a number of previously “unforeseen” costs related to the project. Describing Notre Dame generally as a “net exporter” of research materials, Younger believes additional information is necessary to ensure that no one school is overburdened by the process. As a result, she would like to see a comprehensive “collection analysis” of the participating Indiana schools to determine both the extent of our “overlap” and/or “unique” collections and the relative costs associated with the results.

**Issues for 2005-2006 discussions**

Weber asked members to suggest additional topics or related issues for committee review and/or discussion during academic year 2005-6. Noting her prior request to include "recall success" in the list of potential agenda items, Jennifer Younger asked that "philosophy and goals" as well as "information literacy" also be included as possible issues for discussion. In addition to the continuing discussions on e-packaging and open access, David Smith asked that the committee consider preparing a formal statement on the issues for discussion before the Faculty Senate. With respect to the Indiana Direct Request project, Chuck Rosenberg asked the committee to explore similar potential consortial relationships with Ohio, Illinois and others.

Weber encouraged members to forward any additional issues or discussion topics on to him via email. Keeping in mind the serious issues currently before the UCL, the Chair is asking members to give serious consideration to a proposal that would add an additional "subcommittee layer" to the current UCL. With the current committee membership toting 16 in number, Weber worries that many issues currently needing attention will be left "undone" or not thoroughly addressed. Adding a subcommittee layer will allow for a more thorough investigation and understanding of the issues as presented before the larger committee as a whole.

Roger Jacobs made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm. It was seconded by Chuck Rosenberg and unanimously passed.

Adjourned: 5:15 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2005, 3:30 pm (Rm 222 Hesburgh Library)

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Cooney Hoyer  
Recorder