RESEARCH LIBRARY COUNCIL
Minutes of the November 15, 2013 Meeting
Presentation Room 2601
Du Bois Library

Present: Hayes, Kinney, May, Ogilvie, Schafer, Schmidt, Schweik, Wilcox

Absent: Billings, Cable, Degenhardt, Elsden, Ganz, Johnson, Kalmakis, Lankala, Rothstein, Rudman, Russotto, Shimpach, Sinha

Guests: Button, Canavan, Connare, Davis, Hutton, Will

A. Comments of the Chair
   Prof. Kinney greeted everyone and distributed a pamphlet listing the collections available at the Renaissance Center, to share with students or colleagues who may need to consult these materials.

B. Approval of the October 18, 2013 Minutes
   There was a motion to approve the minutes, which was moved and seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Comments of the Director of Libraries – Jay Schafer
   Mr. Schafer reported that there is no news on the Five College Depository expansion. The issue is the site selection. It seems that Hampshire College may not be as interested as they were previously in providing a site.
   On November 2nd, Mr. Schafer attended the Renaissance Center’s Harvest Banquet. He noted that it was a great function with lively entertainment and wonderful food.
   The Library is now dealing with the South College Academic Facility planning. Our loading dock is in South College, so this will affect the library. Another piece is that the Image Collection Library is in Bartlett, which be demolished. The future location of the ICL is an ongoing question.
   Julie Buehler, the new head of OIT and campus CIO, has met with the Library twice. On November 6, she came here for an introductory meeting with Jay, a meeting with SMG, and a tour of the Learning Commons. On November 12, she was here again to attend a meeting of the Provost’s Learning Commons Committee. This group allows the Library and OIT to meet together to discuss the Learning and Teaching Commons. One major effort under discussion is how do we take the LC to the next level as we look at renovation of that space.
   Campus federal relations consultants from Washington, DC, were here this month. There was discussion of copyright and Open Access issues, SHARE, etc. As a result of their visit, they now have a better understanding of these issues.
   A new video presentation being shown on PBS and elsewhere, The Radical Idea, is a history of land-grant universities, highlighting UMA. The video contains a lot of material from SCUA.
   Mr. Schafer attended the University Press’s 50th anniversary celebration this week. He commented that it was a wonderful celebration. There was a display of all the UMass Press catalogs, which will be digitized by the Library.
   The Myriad Genetics event with Chris Hansen from the ACLU was also this week. It was fascinating to hear Chris’s story about the patent process and the court discussions. This was a great presentation held in the auditorium of the Campus Center. Many students attended as an assignment for their classes.
   Today Mr. Schafer will meet with Prof. Jeff Cox re the Music Reserve Lab. We are hoping to remove materials from the lab and turn the space and also the computers and other equipment over to the Music Department.
   The Research Council has established a Data Management Task Force that both Mr. Schafer and Ms. Button serve on. This is an opportunity for the university to provide an infrastructure for data management based on federal requirements.
D. Comments of RLC Members

Mr. Wilcox commented that he appreciates the good wishes of the library. He added that he hopes to digitize the Massachusetts Studies in Early Modern Culture series and put it up as Open Access.

Prof. May noted that there is so much transition going on in the library that it is difficult for faculty to keep up with the library’s current position on OA, etc. He suggested putting together an online manual on the current state of these topics. Mr. Schafer replied that we have that information on the library webpage but maybe it would be good to pull it together in one place.

Prof. Schweik said he has been asked to be the data manager for the Climate Science area. He suggested that this might be a good group to work with as a pilot project.

E. RLC Contact with Graduating Seniors – Arthur Kinney

Prof. Kinney stated that Ms. Connare has worked on revising the draft letter to graduating seniors. Ms. Connare commented that the university does not allow us to send fundraising mail to students while they are still on campus. The records for the newest alumni do not get onto the Development database until October after their graduation. The Annual Fund thinks it would be a great idea to send new alums a PDF of our newsletter via email. Mr. Schafer noted that one thought is to offer a reduced membership fee for these new alums, one-time only. Dean Hayes said that the reduced membership is symbolic, but it will be helpful to have a reduced fee. Ms. Connare noted that it is free to send a PDF, so we could expand the mailing to all young alums. Mr. Schafer added that a survey of recent grads shows that only a small number of respondents felt they had an ongoing connection to the university. This type of communication could help keep them connected without asking for a lot of money. Prof. Kinney asked if there were any further suggestions for changes to the letter. Ms. Connare said it will be circulated electronically for signatures. Mr. Schafer thanked Prof. Kinney for the idea and RLC for their support.

F. North Carolina State University Site Visit/Takeaways – Leslie Button

Ms. Button gave a presentation on the visit to North Carolina State University. She stated that a small team from UMA went to the “Designing Libraries for the 21st Century” conference in October. She asked the other members of the team (Ms. Canavan, Ms. Hutton, Ms. Will and Mr. Davis) to introduce themselves to RLC and noted that Lorrey Bianchi, chair of Director’s Council, also attended. The conference was held at the new Hunt Library at NCSU, which is a very impressive facility that just opened in January. The Hunt Library has been 25 years in the making, as has the centennial campus where it is located. When the PLCC met this week there was discussion of creating a Learning Commons Assessment Task Force with faculty representation. They would like to pilot some microclimates in the north end of the LC, similar to those at the Hunt Library. They would also like more portable white boards to use as partitions, and to experiment with security loops for laptops in Du Bois and SEL. Ms. Button’s presentation was followed by Q&A and a lively discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Handouts (available from Jan Higgins in the Library Office, 5-6868):

- Agenda of the November 15, 2013 Research Library Council meeting
- Minutes of the October 15, 2013 Research Library Council meeting
- Collections at the Massachusetts Center for Interdisciplinary Renaissance Studies
- Revised letter to Graduating Seniors