

LAUC-B Affiliated Libraries Fall Assembly
31 October 2006
Goldberg Room, Boalt Hall
8:30-10am

MINUTES:

Committee on Affiliated Libraries Affairs Chair Susan Garbarino called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

I. Committee Reports

Susan compiled and distributed committee reports, which will also be posted to the Affiliated Libraries website.

Nick Robinson, TALAG

Nick reported on digital preservation initiatives, such as those by OCLC and the California Digital Library, as well as TALAG's annual meeting with Tom Leonard and Bernie Hurley of The Library regarding cooperation between The Library and Affiliated Libraries on digital preservation, Regional Library Facility (RLF) policies, and collection development. TALAG minutes are available at: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/Staff/talag/>.

Lucia Diamond, LAUC-B

Lucia began by noting the important contributions of Affiliated Library librarians and archivists in LAUC work and then reported on the Executive Committee's focus on the University's librarian recruitment and retention, including making the University into a "destination" for library professionals. Lucia also reminded members to attend next week's LAUC-B Fall Assembly, at which the University's Chief Information Officer, Shel Waggener, will speak.

II. Guest Speaker: Professor Whitney Davis, History of Art Department and Chair of the Academic Senate Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication
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Before Professor Davis arrived, Susan called for topics to discuss with Professor Davis. Members expressed three major areas of concern: The Google Books Project, library space issues, and support for professional librarians and archivists by the University. Susan introduced Professor Davis to the members and the members, in turn, introduced themselves and briefly described their library or archive.

Professor Davis began by noting that while he has been a member of the Academic Senate's Library Committee for many years, it is his first year as committee chair. He also explained the change in his committee's mandate, which is reflected in the committee's new name: The Academic Senate Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication. Professor Davis then focused his discussion on three areas of import, which were quite similar those expressed by the members, and discussions followed:

A. “Electronification” (i.e., transitions to digital resources)

The Academic Senate’s Library Committee is actively seeking new committee members with expertise in relevant areas, such as digital publishing and intellectual property law. The Committee seeks to create resource equity across campus and address the differential of resources, which varies by department and field. While students are making more use of web-based sources, they are not approaching them critically. Faculty and librarians can partner to educate fellow faculty members about this issue and to teach students how to be more savvy and critical about information and the sources they choose.

B. Library Space Issues

The use of library space is in flux, with more space given over to more social and interactive pursuits, with the concomitant talking and, in some cases, eating and drinking which that entails. This transition to a new kind of “intellectual commons” in a library setting creates new challenges as well as excitement in students about our libraries. A current snapshot of library space use and allocation is currently underway in The Library.

C. Support for Professional Librarians

Professor Davis expressed support for increased perquisites and status for professional librarians, as well as faculty, at the University. He would like to see more active partnerships between faculty and librarians, archivists, and curators, including having library professionals teach, in an adjunct capacity, courses in fields in which they have expertise. The level of faculty and library selector engagement is varied across campus, but there are positive models for communication.

Davis asked whether some of the same creative ideas for recruiting and retaining faculty could also be used to recruit and retain librarians. He also mentioned an annual meeting that the committee has with senior campus administrators where they have the opportunity to educate and advocate to the administrators regarding the need to support librarians as professionals.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Supple