

Library, Media, and Computing Committee (LMAC) Minutes November 13, 2003

In attendance were: Bill Barry, Sigrun Bodine, Prairie Cutting, Peggy Firman, Karen Fischer, Peter Greenfield, Kent Hooper, Rob Hutchinson, Norman Imamshah, Ron Stone, and Paula Wilson.

1. The minutes of the meeting on October 30, 2003, were approved.
2. Announcements: Bill Barry mentioned that the RefWorks demo is today from 2-4. Questions came up as to who will provide training should this software be adopted, OIS or Library staff? Karen Fischer said that there's no money available in OIS or Library budgets for the subscription, so if there's not a ground swell of support, RefWorks will not be implemented. Kent Hooper asked if University Enrichment research funds could be used; Bill Barry mentioned that there may be technology funds available.
3. Karen Fischer, Library Director, led a discussion concerning library collection development, with the main issues being the demands on the library budget of periodicals (ten years ago the library spent 50% of its budget on books and 35% on periodicals; these figures are now reversed), and print versus electronic journals. These two issues overlap: the library may be able to spend less on periodicals by subscribing to electronic journals. What is needed is analysis of the periodical collection and serious and thorough debate on the pros and cons of print versus electronic journals.
4. Other issues discussed were the bundling of electronic journals. To buy one, you must subscribe to the whole bundle, which may not be cost effective. Peter Greenfield said that not many faculty are aware of the bundling of electronic journals. Faculty may want to drop one journal, but it's bundled with many others. Conversely, there may be only one useful journal in a bundle of several. Peggy Firman mentioned that some subscriptions to print journals include electronic subscriptions, which could lead to duplication of bundled electronic journals.
5. Peggy Firman, Associate Director for Technical Services in the library, asked if we should enact this shift to electronic periodicals, and, if so, how? Bill Barry asked similar questions: How do we address these challenges? Should the library develop a plan? Bill also asked if there's a way to let departments know what's offered in the electronic bundles of periodicals. Kent Hooper and Paula Wilson expressed interest in seeing current budgetary allocations regarding periodical subscriptions.
6. The discussion of binding print journals was moved to the next meeting.
7. The next LMAC meeting will be Thursday, December 4, 2003, from 10:30-11:30.

Minutes taken by Rob Hutchinson.