University of Arkansas Libraries

Library Council
Meeting Summary
September 29, 2010
10:00, Rm. 486

Present: Dean Allen, Alberta Bailey, Jeff Banks, Angela Black, Todd Cantrell, Cheryl Conway, Anne Marie Candido, Ben Carter, Tom Dillard, Judy Ganson, Tess Gibson (FCC), Lora Lennertz, Bridget Penrose (SCC), Randy Thompson, Carol Warriner, Juana Young, Tim Zou

Dean Allen opened the meeting by announcing that the next university Capital Campaign will more than likely begin within the next two years, beginning, as is traditional, with a “silent phase,” in which planning and brainstorming for fundraising possibilities takes place. The Libraries will be asked for a list of fundraising opportunities, and Dean Allen would like the group to begin now in building such a list.

Dean Allen distributed the University’s current “Policy for Naming Opportunities” for Council members to help them understand what levels of donor opportunities are available, including endowed chairs and fellowships (Dean’s Chair, Department Head’s Chair, Chair, Professorship, Senior Faculty Fellowship, and Faculty Fellowship), as well as naming opportunities for facilities (buildings, areas, rooms, alcoves, etc.).

Dean Allen emphasized that before we can think about soliciting named facilities and spaces, etc., we will have to come to grips with what our plans will be for renovation. She mentioned some possibilities of areas that could be named in the Libraries: Special Collections, Performing Arts & Media, Physics Library, Fine Arts Library, Chemistry Library, etc.) She clarified that when a named room is moved to a different location, the name moves with it.

Dean Allen mentioned other ways to increase our endowment, including donations of money toward collections (books or online resources), which could then be named. Large cash gifts are also valuable for one-time spending on more urgent needs.

Dean Allen requested all Council members to send to her their suggestions to be included in naming opportunities. We have had a list of these in the past, but an updated list needs to be generated to have ready for Ben Carter to present to potential donors. It is ok to include smaller items, but nothing under $5,000. She would like to have everyone’s suggestions that are not related to collections sent directly to her a week before the next Council meeting on October 27th. Those suggestions related to collections should be sent directly to Judy Ganson.

Juana Young provided an update on two facilities projects in the offing: the revamping of the 40-year-old air-handling unit in Mullins—a project which is already on track with bidding being done right now. The second project has to do with asbestos abatement, which has not yet been planned for and will be extremely labor-intensive on the part of the Libraries since it will entail taking down whole collection ranges in numerous areas and relocating all the books within those ranges. Money will be provided for both projects by the University. Juana mentioned that she
hopes that we might be able to forestall this second project (which eventually needs to be done) until we have an automated retrieval system in place underground. Thus, when most of the books (at least 85 percent of them) are re-located to this area the abatement would then not be the problem it would be currently. She will keep us posted on this issue as she is updated.

Dean Allen reported on some items discussed at the last Academic Affairs Executive Group meeting:

The Huron Consulting Firm has been on campus about how to address graduation and retention rates. They will give a report soon and we will know at that time to what extent we will implement the initiatives put forward during the min-retreat when Carla Stoffle visited us.

The Provost will be submitting variations of language to the campus legal office with regard to external review letters for those going up for tenure/promotion in the future.

The campus deans’ budget hearings will take place in November. The focus of these hearings will be on opportunities for additional revenue, how to meet the student and faculty growth, and the extent of the impact on services depending on whether or not we will be able to meet the needs arising from that growth.

There was discussion about the possibility of each college and department having a hand-held radio designed to systematize notification of emergency situations. Any such system that might be adopted would be a supplement to the RazorAlert system and not serve as a substitute for it.

Dean Allen thanked the group in advance for their input on fundraising opportunities and adjourned the meeting.

AMC / October 12, 2010