University of Arkansas Libraries - Public Services Minutes
10/09/2008
9:00 pm, Room 486


Announcements:

Bailey announced that based on the University Holiday Schedule for 2008-09 the Library will be closed on January 2-4, 2009. Library staff who do not want to use vacation days and want to make up the hours must do so within the month in which the closed date occurs. (e.g. December 31 and January 3).

ArLA 2008 Conference Reports:

A number of librarians and staff attended the conference and gave presentations.

Lennertz Jetton conducted a workshop on tips and tricks in finding music information from both print and online resources. Her program was sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association. The workshop was well received, and there were more people in the audience than she had expected. Many interesting questions were asked.

Jan Dixon made a presentation on the transformation of formats of Arkansas maps and historical maps in digital format online. People attended her session felt she made an excellent presentation on the topic.

Luti Salisbury made a presentation on her study of selected U of A faculty publications and their reference citations as a way to identify faculty’s need for building a core collection in a specific field.

Myers gave kudos to the IT support team for ALPS. She thought volunteers for ALPS did a better job than the IT team for ArLA. Others agreed that the ALPS sessions were better organized than those of ArLA. She attended a session on preservation of metadata by Amigos and considered the session very informative.

Hartsell said she enjoyed a session on humor in the workplace and the session helped people to understand the importance of using humor and jokes to lighten things up at work. By attending some of the sessions, she realized how much bigger the U of A Fayetteville Libraries are than other ArLA member libraries. Many of the issues we are dealing with are much larger in scale. As chair of ALPS for 2008, Hartsell informed us of ALPS’ plan for a one-day workshop on November 6, 2008 at U of A Monticello Library. The workshop will be on workplace safety and how to survive disasters.

Bailey attended a presentation on maintaining library policies by Fayetteville Public Library and felt that the presentation reminded her of the need for a policy review at our own libraries.
Reports around Table:

Hartsell reported that the ST200 imaging scanning function for micro-fiche has been fixed on Tuesday by a technician from the company.

Bailey noted that some software needed by faculty or students at the branch libraries are not supported by the university IT because computers in branch libraries are not part of the IT labs. The issues will be looked at. Bailey, Gibson, Zou and Ty Reynolds attended a teleconference on fair use and copyrights in higher education. The conference was sponsored by the University IT and the presenter did an excellent job in explaining and covering many complex issues in an one-hour presentation.

Gibson reported the progress with Desk Top Delivery project. Since it was rolled out quietly, the use of the service is still limited to a small number of faculty. She did not want to generate more expectation than the ILL can handle, and would like to gradually increase the user base. ILL is re-posting the vacant LAT I position externally.

Lennertz Jetton reported that the Learning Collaborative team has extended reaching-out effort to Facebook and Myspace by adding links to library catalog and video collections. She also gave an update on the Desk Tracker statistical software and confirmed that the Library is going to purchase a contract for the online software. Jones, Lennertz Jetton, Zou, and Golden will team-up to set up a template upon which each of the Public Services unit may adapt or modify according to their needs. The Performing Arts and Media has recently purchased a camcorder. Brown added that PAM now has a new Blu-ray scanning system that enables conversion of analog recording into MP3 digital streaming. That is very good news for people who want to digitize sound tracks from a LP record.

Golden reported on the use of Blackboard course ware for managing training materials for student employees at FAL. She also invited people to visit FAL for the art display by Michael Peven.

Zou gave an update of the extended library hours and praised the enthusiasm and positive attitude of the evening circulation team as most of us do not meet them during the day. He also recognized Allon Calhan for leading the evening team and collecting the useful statistics which indicates more and more students have started to take advantage of the extended hours, and evening staff have reported increased activities at the service desks.

Respectively submitted by
Tim Zou

Revised by Alberta Bailey