University of Arkansas Libraries Diversity Committee Meeting– 2/14/2012

Present: Jeff Banks, Joshua Youngblood, Mary Gilbertson, Luti Salisbury, Elaine Dong, Cedric Kenner, and Jennifer Rae Hartman

Announcements
Martha Parker, Librarian-in-Residence

- ALA Midwinter:
  - As a former Academic and Cultural Enrichment (ACE) scholar, Martha recognized Maria Kramer, the current Reforma president, for her efforts to drive diversity and inclusion at a national level.

- Upcoming Projects:
  - IMLS Up Next—Dr. Kevin Cherry (Senior Program Officer, Office of Library Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services) will track former scholars from IMLS programs to see what they’re doing. He has contacted Martha and another scholar to write an article about our experiences. Martha’s article has been submitted, and Dr. Cherry is in the process of editing and approving for posting. He decides when the articles are published online.
  - Applying for 2012 Diversity Grant for research in diversity, due April 30. This is in the works.
  - Poster presentation proposal for ALA 2012 about approaching diversity: “Don’t just let it happen, make it happen.” The ALA will make a formal announcement at the end of this month about who is accepted.
  - Minnesota Institute from ACRL—relates to organizational culture. Status of acceptance will be announced by mid-March.
  - Increase participation in 2.012 Virtual Conference. This is in its very early stages and is ongoing.

- Current work:
  - Cataloging rotation = 75% of her responsibility; Diversity = 25%
  - Already selecting for diversity; contacted selectors for recommendations
  - LibGuide project with Tony Stankus—focus on Nursing LibGuides

Discussion
Library Diversity Web Page Review (Jennifer Rae Hartman)

- Questions to ask Web Group:
  - What is our flexibility for designing / updating the Web page?
  - Who is our audience? What does “diversity” mean to our users? Is it a service, collection, or both?
  - What info will help our users?

- Joshua discussed some web design options to consider.
- Luti suggested we survey our users to ensure that we are meeting their needs.
- Cedric noted the importance of using images, linking to other events on campus, and adding a “Diversity Events” section.
- Cedric suggested we promote the awards celebrating diversity in academia that are awarded to students and faculty who utilize library resources.
Library Demographics (Jeff Banks)

- The demographics are located here: http://libinfo.uark.edu/diversity/about.asp
- The purpose of including this information is to demonstrate that the Libraries are contributing to diversity on campus as well as creating opportunities to recruit / encourage diverse applicants.

For the Good of the Order

- Jennifer Rae—The 10th edition of the Human Library is April 5 and April 6
- Joshua—the Bad Times collections will be available Friday
- Cedric—The Silas Hunt Legacy film will be shown on March 15 at 12 p.m. in the Union ballroom. It is open to anyone.
- Jeff—40 Minutes of Hell, an ESPNU film on former University of Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson and the Razorback basketball program premiered last week. Nolan Richardson was the first black head coach of a major college sport in the South.