University of Arkansas Libraries Diversity Committee Meeting – 11/20/2012

Present: Jeff Banks, Chair, Kate Dougherty, Mary Gilbertson, Jennifer Rae Hartman, Luti Salisbury and Joshua Youngblood

Redesigned Website
Banks presented the redesigned diversity website and began a group discussion.

- The group agreed that the first sidebar link, “the organization”, should be renamed to something more intuitive and descriptive, such as “About the Committee” or “About Us”.
- Salisbury also suggested changing the sidebar links to title case.
- Dougherty suggested possibly adding some featured library diversity-related events to fill out the home page (such as the One Book program, the Human Library, related art exhibits, link to map of international students by country, etc.)
- Dougherty suggested adding a link to a catalog subject heading search entitled something like “view the entire collection” to show all materials purchased with the diversity fund grant. It would be linked from the featured diversity titles box.
  - This link should also appear in the Diversity Resources LibGuide, in addition to the more specific catalog searches.
  - There are two related subject headings – “Diversity Collection” and “Diversity Collection Enhancement Grant”. “Diversity Collection” may encompass “Diversity Collection Enhancement Grant”, but these headings, along with any text describing the grant, should be checked with Judy Ganson.
- Banks suggested that a new page describing the Diversity Collection Enhancement Grant be created and linked from the “diversity resources” sidebar item. The catalog subject heading search for “view the entire collection” could be linked here.
- Banks suggested linking to only the Diversity LibGuide and a new diversity fund page under “resources” in the sidebar.
- Several sidebar links such as “request forms” are for Special Collections and should be removed.
- The “campus organizations” link is currently dead. It should be determined where this will go.
- It was suggested that the content of the new site be reviewed against the LibGuide content to avoid an excessive amount of duplication.
  - For example, Banks suggested that the events feed, as well as some of the information from the first tab, may be more appropriate for the website than the LibGuide.
  - Hartman suggested that the group review SpringyCamp suggestions RE: the Diversity LibGuide
  - While Banks suggested that the LibGuide should focus on library collections, Youngblood said that LibGuides are not meant to be instructional only, and that more discussion is needed prior to removing content.
• Hartman mentioned that Beth Juhl may update the events database to include a checkbox category for diversity, so that diversity-related events could be noted and fed directly into the home page of the new diversity website. Examples given include art exhibits such as photography by Jerry Taliaferro, the current Native American photography exhibit, the One Book initiative, etc..
• Banks asked the committee to email him with any other suggestions for the draft website.

ACRL Diversity Standards
Banks would like the libraries to adopt the ACRL Diversity Standards.

• He mentioned that there will be a session with staff in the Spring semester to review and discuss the standards.
• The committee viewed a video created by the libraries featuring Banks and Parker providing an overview of the standards and applauded their performance!
• The committee also viewed the University’s most recent video about life in Northwest Arkansas.
• A third video from the Northwest Arkansas Diversity Summit was shown. The “I am Northwest Arkansas” theme showcased the diversity of the area. Banks noted that the video reaches out to racial and ethnic minorities and shows them that they would not be alone if relocating to the area.

Other
Hartman suggested that we offer an informative session to help our library colleagues and others on campus go through the Diversity Certificate process/checklist, after inviting an expert on campus to speak about it.

• Banks noted that the training site at edp.uark.edu will show users their progress.
• Banks said he will look into inviting a speaker or speak himself.

Banks noted that the priorities of the committee for the Spring semester are to advertise the new Diversity Research Award, and to discuss adoption of the ACRL Diversity Standards.