Strategic Initiatives Cabinet  
Summary of Meeting  
January 21, 2003  
10:00 a.m., Rm. 486  

Present: Allen, Bailey, Candido, Cantrell, Conway, Ganson, Hartsell, Kulczak, Lennertz, Johnson, Juhl, McKee, Parsch, Rogers, Santos, Shrauger, Simpson, Waligorski, Williams, Young  

Dean Allen opened the meeting by asking the chairs of the various Coordinating Committees to report on progress of their Initiative Groups. Lennertz, Juhl, Kulczak, and Candido all gave their reports, which can be viewed on the StaffWeb at the following URL: http://libinfo.uark.edu/StrategicPlanning/default.asp  

Ganson mentioned that the library hasn’t yet solicited systematic faculty input regarding the possibility of membership in RLG. Not many faculty attended the RLG presentation in early December. In soliciting faculty recommendations, the library will have to provide basic objective information about the benefits and drawbacks of membership vis-à-vis the alternative of not becoming a member but just purchasing access rights to some of their collections. Allen indicated that we can make use of the faculty Library Committee to help us with faculty input, and we can attend departmental faculty meetings to brief them about RLG. Perhaps the Library Representatives from each department could also be called upon to act as go-betweens in the process. After receiving recommendations from faculty, the library will need to determine how willing it is to participate in membership actively. Allen would like to have the issue settled by May at the latest.  

Allen announced that she has drawn up a charge for the re-formulated Staff Concerns Committee. Ellen Williams will serve as chair of that Committee. This will be a good opportunity for staff to start afresh.  

Allen mentioned the establishment of a national Counter Code of Practice, which specifies in detail the requirements that vendors must meet to have their online usage reports designated “COUNTER-compliant,” ensuring more consistent measurement of usage of online information. There will be only one valid version of the Code at any given time, but different levels of compliance will be possible. Juhl distributed a handout on the subject and explained briefly some details such as deciding what a search is and how vendors define successful searches. This Code of Practice is now in effect nationwide, and there is an effort to get more publishers and vendors involved. If we want a “Counter Seal of Approval,” we will have to conform to the stated policies and procedures. There is a declaration form to fill out eventually when the library is ready to do this. Allen emphasized that this authorized data will be useful for us because it will give us good and consistent analytical data to help us determine whether or not to retain certain databases and journals. Go to this URL for more information: http://www.projectcounter.org/code_practice.html
Bailey announced that an ADA Task Force has been established in the library with Steve Chism as chair.

Young announced that custodial services are being moved to night schedules based on recommendations of a consulting firm for Physical Plant. There will be daytime contact, but most of the services will be performed during night-time hours.

Young updated the group on the storage facility. The current plan is for a building north of Printing Services which will be shared by Continuing Education (a production studio), Fulbright College (a clay studio for pottery classes), and the library. The building is being constructed in two phases because the current pottery studio must be demolished before the new building can be fully constructed (the studio occupies part of the site of the library’s portion of the new building). The clay studio should be in its new quarters before fall classes begin. Therefore, the library’s portion of the building (13,500 sq. ft.) will be built as Phase 2, with construction beginning probably in fall 2003.