Report of the UA Libraries’ Strategic Planning Process

A seven-member committee was appointed to oversee the strategic planning process. The committee was chaired by Tim Nutt. The other members were Molly Boyd, Anne Marie Candido, Tess Gibson, Gwyneth Jelinek, Deb Kulczak, and Molly Moore.

Every library department was asked to brainstorm to identify issues. The Program Steering Committee identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats confronting the library, and a SWOT analysis—along with information from departments— informed the planning process. Four task groups were charged with (1) identifying internal and external trends affecting the library’s future; (2) identifying topic areas for goal setting; (3) drafting a mission statement; and (4) recruiting facilitators and recorders for the retreat. The committee worked with a consultant, Mary Dillard, to plan the retreat and train the facilitators and recorders. The agenda and mission statement were reviewed by the Program Steering Committee and Cabinet prior to the retreat.

Fifty-six people, representing every department and level of appointed personnel, were selected to participate in the retreat. The retreat was held on May 31 and June 1 at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain. The results of the retreat will be reviewed by all personnel. The draft goals and objectives will then be edited and priorities established by the Program Steering Committee. Once the strategic plan is finalized and approved, action plans will be developed by appointed task groups to address goals and objectives.

6/8/07