Web Group Minutes 1/16/15

Present: Amy Allen, Molly Boyd, Beth Juhl, Arthur Morgan, Kalli Vimr, Joshua Youngblood

Apologies: Mary Gilbertson

1. Molly’s StaffGuide for Public Relations: there was discussion about details of presentation and content, and the implications of this new document for the current Public Relations Web page. BJ will investigate why some icons are not being displayed properly. She spoke about the advantages of moving from StaffWeb to LibGuides: security, people being able to edit their own material, and the ability to hide pages intended for staff from public view. JY would like to prepare a StaffGuide for Special Collections staff, moving from a binder to hyperlinks etc.

2. BJ’s prototype designs for the large search box on the Libraries’ new home page: there was discussion about the pros and cons of multiple choices for the user (as on Beth’s design) and a discovery layer. The uncertainty about when a unified search tool might be bought or implemented was resolved for the present by having a list of choices on the new home page. MB raised the difficulty with the new catalog in finding specific issues of newspapers. She will discuss this further with BJ.

3. AM displayed a trial version of the current Libraries’ home page that had an RSS feed direct from the U of A’s Events database. It was pointed out that it included only those events scheduled for Mullins Library—events in Fine Arts etc. were omitted. AM is to ask Chris Nixon for a version of the code that includes the missing events. The committee asked him to explore the possibility of altering the code to reverse date and even title, and to split the line between title and description. Also to limit the display to the first 255 characters of the description.

Am/bj 1/16/15