University of Arkansas Libraries
Library Council, Wednesday, May 22, 2013

Present: Molly Boyd, Kate Dougherty, Sheri Gallaher, Judy Ganson, Tess Gibson, Mary Gilbertson, Deb Kulczak, Lora Lennertz-Jetton, Molly Moore, Martha Parker, and Tim Zou.

Martha Parker announced that the 40/50/100 digital website had been launched, and the Compton film, *Opportunity for Arkansas: Buffalo National River*, was posted on the Libraries’ Web site and YouTube channel. The fifteen-minute film was created by Neil Compton in spring 1963 to promote keeping the Buffalo River free-flowing and undammed. It shows destruction at Monte Ne, maps of proposed reservoirs, and scenes of the Buffalo River. Captions are included. The original 8 mm film was remastered through a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation. Due to the renewed interest in preserving the Buffalo River watershed, Martha expects the film to get some attention.

Kate Dougherty proposed an expansion of the recycling program to include e-waste drop off at the circulation desk. Kate noted that having a permanent drop-off in a more convenient location such as the library would do much to facilitate the proper disposal of all the phones and gadgets. It would also involve collaboration with the Office for Sustainability and Facilities. Kate read about a similar project at another academic library who partnered with a local non-profit recycling center.

Mullins Library is currently a drop off point for printer and ink cartridges, batteries, and cell phones. This material is collected in the West entry and stored in the end of the tunnel until someone, either the Bookstore or the Recycling Office, picks them up periodically. The Bookstore started the program but has not been systematic or timely in their upkeep, if they are continuing it at all.

Kate will investigate the program, find out who is in charge of it, what happens to the materials that are collected, and whether it could be expanded or better managed. She will work with the Office of Sustainability to determine if there is a better end use for these or other items, such as an opportunity to pass them on to someone who will re-use the item. Molly Boyd volunteered to work with Kate on this project.

Kate also raises the possibility of looking for grants to fund sustainability efforts, such as purchase of printers that allow double-sided or duplex printing. All networked printers have the ability to duplex and are set on duplex as the default, including the GACL printers. That can be changed in the settings. Some branches share their staff printers with students.

Another sustainability effort related to the reduction of paper waste could be to promote the use of a digital signature on emails that asks recipients to think about the environment before printing emails. Kate will send the digital file to Molly who will submit it to the Tuesday Times.

As a part of the Clean Out Your Office Day activities, Judy Ganson would like everyone to be reminded to locate their emergency flashlights (which were distributed to each office a couple of years ago), check the batteries, and place in an easy to find location. Some offices were equipped with rechargeable, mounted flashlights due to critical need.

Tess Gibson reported the RELAIS software was scheduled to be implemented in August, with a goal of having it fully functioning before fall semester begins. RELAIS (pronounced “relay”) is a Canadian
product sold as a discovery to delivery system. The GWLA project is three-year pilot testing only one component of the system—real time availability. When a request is made through ILL, staff typically look up who has the item through World Cat and then sends a request to that library, which may or may not have that material available. RELAIS software connects directly to GWLA members’ catalogs and determines which library has the material available before routing to the appropriate library. We can set parameters of potential loanable items, such as status (“check shelves”) or area (“never SPEC COLL”). The University of Illinois has fully incorporated the RELAIS system into its catalog, which can be reviewed for functionality and capabilities. The system saves staff time in handling requests, especially those that need to be forwarded a number of times before finding an appropriate loaner, and improves our ability to return requested items to patrons faster. Currently we have 5-7 day average for physical items; RELAIS is expected to decrease that average.

Judy Ganson reported that we were still waiting to hear from Newsbank regarding their American Newspapers, which is now the exclusive carrier for the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. They had previously quoted a price of $55,000 per year.

Also affecting the budget is the cost for First Search, which was dropped by the State Library Traveler program. ArkLink is waiting for a response from OCLC about costs for an ArkLink agreement to carry First Search, and the Traveler program is trying to compile numbers to see if they could keep the program at a higher cost to libraries. We will subscribe to it either way, but the cost is uncertain.

Judy Ganson responded to a question about the plans for the empty stacks on Level 1 that there is asbestos in the flooring, so any renovation would have to involve Health and Safety. Perry | Dean Architects have submitted a revised proposal for a storage facility to be built on Government Avenue. The University would have to add this to their capital projects list, which would then have to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees, and then added to the capital campaign list of projects. Ideally we would move the materials and services out of Mullins Library, gut it, and renovate, including asbestos abatement throughout.

Council members are asked to think about appropriate agenda items before the next meeting. Kate will report back on what she discovers about e-waste recycling.