

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY BOARD

Meeting of March 12, 2001

Present: Heisch, Woolls, Wu, Freeman, Klingberg, Branz, Brent, Loomba, McNeil, Whitlatch, Breivik, Rickford

1. The minutes of March 5 were approved as corrected.
2. Whitlatch distributed a memo from Lucy Yonemura to Celia Bakke concerning the Senter Road booksale. Two vendors paid \$1 per book for 1169 books. We discussed whether vendors should be given priority over the community (including SJSU faculty and staff) in selecting, or whether more per volume could be charged on the first days of sales. We agreed that SJSU patrons should not have to wait for vendors to pick over items in the next sale. About 10,000 of the 18,000 Senter Road duplicates remain to be recycled.
3. We discussed the PowerPoint slides about "Information Access at San Jose State University," and possible policy recommendations (e.g. regular assessment of library quality of service, budget enhancements for maintenance of providing access to information, etc.). While systemwide library budget enhancements are expected, it is important that we have a clear plan for local implementation. Accreditation in some programs require a certain level of journal holdings or acquisitions, and this could be explained to the Academic Senate.

Electronic versions of journals sometimes cost less -- but often more -- than printed copies, in a diverse and changing pricing environment. As always, ease of access for some users may mean less quality of service for others, but any campus-wide policy (e.g. indexing acquisition dollars) to guide budgetary decision -- or to implement program review assessment processes -- will have to have access/quality balances in mind. Increases in off-campus offerings might be linked, in policy guidelines, to increases in electronic media acquisitions. Other programmatic changes need corresponding shifts in internal library budgetary practices. We discussed how useful it would be to graph library costs (salaries and materials) against time and against other university costs. Our goals in presenting all this to the Senate would include improving the library's ability to provide the level of service desired by faculty and students, development of a shared appreciation of the situation that we are in, and, possibly, arriving at a set of shared principles (e.g. indexing acquisitions, increasing the proportion of electronic media). Finally, the prospect of additional dollars -- next year perhaps -- can be the occasion for adding library support in areas where there has been growth

in program needs.

Library policy especially considers faculty assessment of needs, while students' use of the library is limited by their level of information competency. Data about trends in users' successful access (to print or electronic items)_ would be useful. With the ongoing deterioration of California's high school libraries, the increasing numbers of students from outside California, and increasing numbers of re-entry students with stale library skills, there are increasing needs for information competency assistance; we might well recommend that the Senate call for a more structural information competence program.

4. Brent wondered about how YRO might affect library operations. Breivik will share a recent memo to the Provost about this.

5. We meet next on April 2. The final meeting (April 30) can be at Patricia Breivik's condo. This semester, we will need to elect next year's Library Board chair.

Adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

David McNeil, Professor and Chair
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