Library Committee Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2013, Addlestone Library Room 251

Attendees: Christine Byrum, Joshua Davis, Bonnie Devet, Louise Doire, Michael Lee, Moore Quinn

Library representatives: John White, Christa Poparad, Katina Strauch, James Williams, Heather Gilbert

SC Historical Society and Library Renovation

(John) A large renovation project is planned for the library. The South Carolina Historical Society will relocate its collections to Addlestone Library. It is one of the largest research archives in the Southeast and has been collecting documents since 1850. To accommodate these collections, Addlestone will need to expand its special collections section. Renovations will include additional compact shelving, housing all circulating materials on the 2nd floor, removing a few bays, adding 2-300 student seats, adding study rooms, adding a faculty room, adding a digital production lab, and increasing power supplies. The renovations are scheduled for summer ’14 and the SC collection should move in winter ’14-15.

Technology Updates

Discovery Services – Discovery Services allows a researcher to search for materials across the library catalog but also all existing databases as well. It is especially useful for students and faculty with broad research needs, and the researcher can identify useful journals, books, and databases through the system. The library is currently surveying the usefulness of Discovery Services. Discovery services can also stream media and serve as a digital repository and digital library. It is a Google-type experience for researchers.

The library currently subscribes to films on demand and academic media online and facilitates clip creation for faculty members to embed in slide shows. They do tutorials on these services as well.

VHS phase-out is imminent.

The library has piloted some media files in streaming format. DVD’s will be around for a while; not every DVD will be streaming any time soon. The library would like to know from faculty about streaming video that the College does not currently access.

(James – Scanner) The library is currently demonstrating a walk-up scanner called KIC. It can scan documents to Google Drive, a USB, a phone, email, etc. It takes 30 seconds to a minute at most. Over 2500 pages have been scanned in the month trial use of the machine. It scans in multiple formats including mp3 and searchable pdf. The College is considering purchasing 1-2 more.
The Lowcountry Digital Library Project is changing. The Digital Public Library of America launched yesterday, the first in the US (dp.la is the URL). There are 4 digital libraries in SC. These collectively form the SC digital library. The Lowcountry Digital Library is located at lcdl.cofc.edu. The beta site is up and works on mobile devices and has been rebuilt using open source tools. No other institution of the College’s size is approaching the digital library project with such ambition. The management of the SC digital library will move to the College of Charleston as well. SC is only one of six pilot projects for the larger Digital Public Library of America. College of Charleston will have over 65,000 items represented in the DPLA.

The library has also secured a grant for the Lowcountry Digital History Initiative. There is currently little to contextualize current possessions in the historical collection. This new, curated collection will show why particular items are important, what larger historical narrative they contribute to. It is essentially a digital humanities project, and several faculty members from the College, the Citadel, and elsewhere are participating.

Budget

(Katina) The current budget does not show the use of electronic resources in the departmental cost breakdowns. The library is currently implementing analytics about what library resources are most useful to departments and faculty. Much money is currently allocated to serials. The library will move to more of a shelf-ready approval plan this year with books equipped with pre-processed call numbers. Books that arrive without prior cataloguing cost between $2-10 to process.

Next year’s projects include a pilot test of patron driven acquisitions. Reducing departmental budgets by 9.731%, the library will free up $30,000 to acquire several thousand e-book titles. If the book is accessed in the next year, the College pays for the book to be added to the collection. If the book is not accessed, the College loses access but does not pay for it. Access counts as viewing ten pages of a book, viewing it for 10 minutes, or printing one page. The College of Charleston is taking a more cautious approach with patron driven acquisitions than other universities. Negotiations are underway for a common state-wide e-book platform. More collaborative open source consortiums will help alleviate the library’s dependence on Ebsco and other companies’ prices. E-books through the library will require adobe digital editions to transfer the book to other devices like a Kindle.

A plan for a new library website is due by May 1, and they are hoping to launch a new website by next year.

(Christa – new database requests) – In the faculty services guide under journals and databases is the request journal or database form. Faculty can fill out the form with a justification for why a new database would be useful. The library will acquire it on a trial basis at which point faculty can fill out evaluation forms recommending its full adoption. The library will attempt to raise the money to purchase the database.
Grants

(John) The library has accrued over $400,000 in grant funds for the next 2-3 years and has several requests under consideration. The library has also gotten involved with undergraduate research and has a SURF grant which will allow a student to participate in collaboration with a faculty member in history on the digital humanities project.

Student Research

(John) The library is working with the Honors College to publicize excellent theses. Those theses nominated by faculty members as major contributions worthy of recognition will become part of an online database. This database may also include Master’s theses in the future as well. These will be self-archiving, and students can upload their work as well as set rights and permissions. This database will also make it possible for Chrestomathy to become an online resource and expand its contents to include documentaries and other multi-media projects.

New Committee Chair

Christine Byrum nominated Moore Quinn as tentative chair of next year’s committee. Michael Lee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.