Meeting of the CofC Library Committee, April 18, 2014
~11 am-12:20 pm, Library rm 250, Admin Conference Room

Attending (*= also a member of the 2014-15 committee):

Bonnie Devet, Committee member*
Louise Doire, Committee member (had to leave early due to illness)*
Jennifer Fox, Committee member (secretary)*
Claire Fund, Library Director of Administrative Services
Miriam Klous, Committee member*
Katina Strauch, Library Assistant Dean of Technical Services
Robert Westerfelhaus, Committee Chair*
John White, Dean of Libraries

Short meeting to determine the 2014-2015 Library Committee Chair

-All five of the returning Library Committee members were present at this meeting. New members (who were therefore not present) are Mary Battle and Herb Parker.

-The current chair, Robert Westerfelhaus, volunteered to serve as the chair for the next academic year.

-A motion was made and seconded (by Louise Doire and Bonnie Devet) and unanimously approved by those present for the 2014-15 chair to be Robert Westerfelhaus.

-Jennifer Fox volunteered to continue as the committee's secretary.

I. Overview by Dean White of the library's current state

-Overall state of the library is very good. For instance, our peer libraries faced recent budget cuts due to the recession, which we did not.

-An area of strength is in our collections. We incorporate faculty into decisions about the collections.

-Our major challenge, which is faced by all libraries, is the high, recurring cost of maintaining access to digital content. This cost has kept us from being about to increase our digital content at the rate we would like to.

-An opportunity we are currently expanding is for faculty to add non-pedagogical content to a e-repository (e.g., Bachelor’s essays, masters theses, conference papers that typically aren’t published).

II. Dean White's vision for the library's future

-Emphasis on the virtual space as well as the physical space of the library.

-There will be a new website coming out in August, concomitant with the opening of the newly renovated library building.
Recently hired librarians have computer science skills necessary to manage our virtual library; future hires due to upcoming retirements will also focus on these skills.

-Our access to "rented" e-books and ability to use Pascal Delivers to request books from other SC libraries greatly expanded our effective holdings.

-We will be focused on making searches of our virtual library easier, more seamless, and with detailed item-level descriptions of our resources.

-There was a conversation about e-books and whether due to their rented nature they might suddenly become unavailable to a class after the e-book had been assigned.

-There was also a conversation about limited access to recent scientific journals, with a couple specific examples by Miriam Klous and Jennifer Fox of online journal articles available at MUSC or USC/Clemson that are not available from CofC, despite those institutions having participated in a similar contract with Elsevier Publishing Company.

***A report re: the expansion of the library's Special Collection

-In December 2014, we will receive the Special Collections from the SC Historical Society.

-This collection will double the size of the unique manuscript holdings available in our building and draw increased scholarly attention.

-It is unique for a non-R1 school to have such a large Special Collection.

***A report re: the library's improvement project

-The library renovation is part of our plan to become a 21st century library. After the renovation is completed, strategic planning will commence about the direction to continue this initiative.

-Summary of the improvement project below is directly copied from Claire Fund's recent email regarding the project and how to follow its progress on the associated blog:

- 200 new seats
- 3 new study rooms
- 1 new lecture room
- New Starbucks Café
- More power for mobile devices
- Expansion of Special Collections
- South Carolina Historical Society Collection coming in Dec. 2014

The first floor of the library will be open for the duration of the renovation. ILL and PASCAL will be available all summer long. Technical Services will relocate to the Reference offices on the 1st floor, and faculty should continue to submit orders for library materials as usual. Computers, Microfilm, and the Media Collection are not affected by the renovation. For more information, please see the Addlestone Library Improvement Blog. blogs.cofc.edu/AddlestoneImprovement
V. Proposed materials budget

-Unless the library has a budget increase, it is a de facto budget cut, because our costs to maintain e-resources increase each year.

-Budget projection is below:

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