Library Committee Report 2012-2013

Committee Chair, Christine Byrum, Biology

Chair Elect: Robert Westerfelhaus, Communications
Secretary: Jennifer Fox

The library committee met three times this year. Once in the Fall and two times in the Spring (A brief meeting was held at the end of the Spring to elect the committee chair and secretary).

The committee’s primary function is to examine the 2013-2014 budget prepared by the library and to approve a final budget after learning more about the reasons for any modifications. In addition, the library dean and staff update committee members about recent changes in roles of the library as well as new technologies offered. Primary topics discussed included the following:

*This year, the Millennium integrated library system (ILS), our library management system, was moved from a shared server located in Columbia, SC to a stand-alone server at the College of Charleston. This should streamline library operations and make it easier to provide books available to our patrons quickly.

*The library created a Digital Scholarship department during Summer 2012. This department will work with faculty to produce and protect their digital work and is also investigating the possibility of producing an online, interactive journal, planning a new library website, and working with the Honors College to make digital copies of student theses available.

*Increased costs and high demand for electronic resources have made it necessary to modestly reduce the budget for print materials. Departmental budgets for print materials had to be reduced by 9.731% to free up $30,000 for the acquisition of several thousand e-book titles.

*In South Carolina, there are four digital libraries that collectively form the SC digital library. The College of Charleston houses one of these, the Lowcountry Digital Library, a collection that documents history and culture of the Lowcountry. The College of Charleston group was recently selected to manage the collective SC digital libraries. They have also been chosen to participate in one of six pilot projects for the Digital Public Library of America. Over 65,000 items are represented in this collection.

*Room 335 has been set aside for faculty who would like to write or do research at the library.

* KIC scanners are being tested at the library. Using these machines, patrons can obtain digital scans of documents which can be transferred to Google Drive, a USB, cell phones, email, etc. This has been a popular addition and may replace some of the copy machines.

*The South Carolina Historical Society is relocating its collections to Addlestone Library. This collection is one of the largest research archives of this sort in the Southeast and has been collecting documents since 1850.

*Planned renovations: Addition of compact shelving will also provide space for additional student seating, study rooms, a faculty room, and a digital production lab. Also, the special collections section will be expanded to accommodate the SC Historical Society collection.