**Library Committee End-of-Year Report, 2012-13**

The Library Committee discussed a variety of topics at its monthly meetings, including:

**Budget:** Robin Kibler, Head of Collection Management, presented the proposed FY13 budget for the libraries’ departmental and program acquisitions to the committee early in fall semester. She reviewed recent trends in the libraries’ budget for acquisitions, which has recovered two-thirds of the losses it suffered during FY08-FY10, and the committee unanimously approved allocations for acquisitions in FY13.

**Unbound**: Sylvia Brown, College Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, reported on the development of Unbound, a portal that connects digital projects happening at the College. She presented a pilot project in Unbound, as well as plans for future development that include digitizing College archives, holdings in Chapin Library, course materials, class projects, and faculty research.

**EBook Use:** Robin Kibler reported on the current status of the College’s ebook collection, which includes three different services (Ebook Library, Ebrary, and Springer). The committee discussed the growing reliance on ebooks, which provide a cost effective means of collection expansion, as well as current problems with ebook delivery and use that students, faculty, and staff experience with this relatively new service.

**The Honor Code**: Erica Wu, a student member of the Honor Committee, addressed the Library Committee about the need to educate students about the Honor Code. Given the fourfold increase this year in violations of the Honor Code, the Honor Committee wanted to learn about the genesis and status of “The Eph Survival Guide,” a website developed by the library and Academic Resources that currently offers the only instruction about the Honor Code at the College. Lori DuBois, Reference and Instruction Librarian, described the development of “The Eph Survival Guide,” which emulates a project at UCLA, and stated the willingness of the Library to take part in whatever instructional initiative should emerge from the Honor Committee’s efforts. We reviewed information about the use of anti-plagiarism software among our peer schools and agreed that the Honor Committee’s efforts to coordinate a discussion about how best to provide education on the Honor Code is extremely timely and should include representatives of the library among its participants.

**Library Instruction**: Christine Ménard, Head of Research and Reference Services, and Lori DuBois provided an overview of on-going efforts to integrate the libraries and instruction on information literacy and research into the College’s curriculum. The committee praised their efforts to identify appropriate courses across the curriculum for these efforts and recognized the difficulty of their work.

**Representation of Libraries and OIT on the CEP**: The committee’s discussion of library instruction resulted in a realization of the possible merits of representation for both the libraries and OIT on the CEP. Without knowledge of proposed changes in the curriculum, librarians and IT specialists focusing on instruction find themselves in a reactive position. We invited Lee Park, chair of the CEP, to meet with us and to discuss the possible pros and cons of such representation. The committee concluded that a one-to-two-year trial period, during which representatives of the libraries and OIT would sit on the CEP as ex-officio members, would allow all concerned to determine whether such representation offers the benefits we anticipate.

**Assessing Library User Experience:** At the committee’s final meeting (which has yet to happen as of the date of this report), Christine Ménard will present a summary of the results of LibQual, a library user survey.

**New Sawyer Library:** The committee discussed progress on construction of the new library briefly at each meeting this past year. In addition, we toured the library construction site and the Library Shelving Facility during fall semester.

**Future Agenda items for 2012-13:**

* Monitor the construction and furnishing of the new library.
* Review proposed budgets.
* Continue discussion of how the libraries can contribute to efforts to educate students about the Honor Code.
* Pursue the possibility of representation for both the libraries and OIT on the CEP.

**Library Committee Members:** Julie Cassiday, Connor Dempsey, Angela Li, Larry Kaplan, David Michael, Dave Pilachowski, Patrick Spero, Dinny Taylor, Nana Taylor, Bob Volz, Chris Winters.

Reported by Julie Cassiday, Chair.