Notes from the Student Library Advisory Council Meeting
March 2, 2009

Members attending: Sarah Brown, Angie Boyce, Melissa Hardstone, Heather Levy, Gessika Mathieu, Christine McEnery, Alka Menon, Rella Moag, Erin Penner, Tal Rusak, Corey Siegel, Corey Wronski-Mayersak

Attending from the Library: Janet McCue, Associate University Librarian for Teaching, Research and Learning Services; Tony Cosgrave, Instruction Coordinator, Olin/Uris Libraries; Jeremy Cusker, Reference Assistant, Engineering Library; Dean Kraft, Chief Technology Strategist; Baseema Krkoska, Management and Public Policy Librarian, Mann Library; Xin Li, Assistant University Librarian for Strategic Initiatives,; Ed Weissman, Assistant to the University Librarian

1) Introductions
     Janet McCue, Associate University Librarian for Teaching, Research and Learning Services, chaired the meeting for University Librarian Anne Kenney who was unable to attend.

2) Mobile Friendly Library
     Baseema Krkoska, Chair of the Library-Outside-the Library Team along with team members Tony Cosgrave and Jeremy Cusker asked Council members about the kind of mobile devices they used and if there were library functions they would like to be able to perform on them. Tony and Baseema showed screen shots of a catalog search from a mobile device on the North Carolina State University (NCSU) library catalog and described some of the mobile functionality available at the New York Public Library and other libraries. Reaction/comments from Council members included:
          Mobile devices

- a few had web- enabled mobile devices but most had non-web-enabled cell phones due to the sufficiently high cost of web services

     How using mobile:

- Wiggio (for group projects)
- calendar
- email
- texting (particularly, sending messages simultaneously to multiple people in a group)
- Some mentioned that use of phones for actual phone calls was uncommon--they prefer to make such calls from home--and a several others mentioned that they preferred to use a laptop for e-mail, calendars, etc. Others said that while they were currently using a laptop for those functions they would like to use a mobile device for these things.

     How would like to use mobile vis a vis the library:

- Important that it be simple to use/avoid heavy use of graphics which makes it harder to navigate. The simple, stripped down text interface of the NCSU library catalog for mobile devices was praised.
- Library hours
- Library catalog, especially when all computers are busy and all laptops are checked out
- Send text message from library public computer to mobile device with call numbers so can carry to stacks the find materials
- Saved catalog searches (Bookbag) so can bring to stacks to find books without printing out or writing down call numbers
- Renew books
- Access e-journals
- Chat/text reference
- Text notification of books when returned and available to be checked out
- Maps of library stack areas
- Charge out mobile devices like we do laptops

At the same time, these services would not provide many with enough incentive to pay for internet access on their mobile devices.

Lastly, Baseema and Tony announced that the Library is now beta testing a new "Text a Librarian" service. Information is available on the CU Labs page < https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/CULLABS/Home>.
> Text a Librarian
> Type CULIB
> Type your message
> SMS to 66746
> Available Monday-Friday before 5:00 p.m.

2) Issues from SLAC members
In response to concerns raised at the February 2 meeting, Ed Weissman reported that:

- We are still trying to get definitive information about the privacy of library catalog searches made from the search box on the Cornell University Library Facebook page. The Facebook search box is provided by a 3d party, Springshare. It was suggested that the Library post a disclaimer on the page about the catalog search privacy.
- We are still awaiting word from the university administration on when and if we can start the Olin renovation project. As soon as we know, we will start getting in touch with Olin users about alternate arrangements.

New issues raised/comments included:

- An article in the March 2 *Cornell Daily Sun* < http://cornellsun.com/section/news/content/2009/03/02/cu-library-set-digitize-more-content > about the Library's print-on-demand relationship with Amazon states:

  The initiative to make Cornell librarys unique and rare collections available began in 2006 when the University partnered with Microsoft for mass digitization funding.

...
Print-on-demand can also be used to meet the academic needs of Cornell students, Kenney said. If the library runs out of a textbook for a particular course, it can immediately place a print-on-demand order for the textbook and have it shipped to the library the next day.

Concern was expressed that the Library was "selling its assets" and that there is a need to "balance access with the integrity of the collection." Janet pointed out that only public domain material was included so that in-copyright textbooks could not, in fact, be printed through this program. The Library feels that allowing individuals to buy print on demand copies of its materials, rare and otherwise, is a boon to scholarship. Also, there is evidence that making rare materials available in digital form spurs greater use of the artifacts themselves within in the Library.

Electronic journals available as page images such as in the JSTOR collection < http://www.jstor.org/> are much more useful than those available as HTML text, for example Literature Online (LION) < http://lion.chadwyck.com/>. Page images allow symbols and non-Roman scripts to be viewed and cited with accuracy which is often not possible otherwise.

3) Tour of Mann Library   Baseema led a tour of Mann Library.

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled on Monday, April 6 from 5-6 PM in 703 Olin Library.