

Notes from the Student Library Advisory Council Meeting  
November 24, 2008

Members attending: Melissa Hardstone, Heather Levy, Alka Menon, Erin Penner, Elizabeth Phillips, Tal Rusak, Corey Wronski-Mayersak

Attending from the Library: Anne Kenney, Carl A. Kroch University Librarian; Xin Li,, Assistant University Librarian for Strategic Initiatives; Janet McCue, Associate University Librarian for Teaching, Research, Outreach, and Learning Services; Kornelia Tancheva, Director of Olin/Uris Libraries; Ed Weissman, Assistant to the University Librarian

### 1) Library Budget Planning

The Library has begun a budget planning exercise to identify cost savings and efficiencies in response to President Skorton's call "to begin a deliberate process of reexamining many aspects of our management of the university." Anne Kenney asked for suggestions on ways the library could save money. Two ideas were raised.

- Save paper and ink with Net print by displaying error messages on the computer screens rather than printing them out on paper. Also, find ways to eliminate or minimize the printing of the cover pages for print jobs.
- Turn off lights in the libraries when the libraries are closed.

Anne encouraged Council members to send her suggestions for ways the library can save money. Suggestions can be sent to <slac-1@cornell.edu> or <libadmin@cornell.edu>.

### 2) Olin Library Renovation Transition Planning

Kornelia Tancheva discussed the planning that is underway to deal with the disruption the renovation of Olin Library will cause. Renovation is expected to start this summer and run through Fall 2011. (*Since this meeting, we have found that the time line will probably change and construction may start later than the summer. No definitive information from the University is available yet.*) In order to minimize the length of the disruption, the plan is to close floors 3-7 for use during for the two years renovation process. There are on average over 3,300 visitors to Olin each day. During peak use days, there are over 11,000 visitors/day. There are hundreds of user seats on floors 3-7.

The renovation will affect patrons in the following ways:

- Floors 3-7 completely closed
- Substantial portion of the Olin collection housed at the Library Annex
  - Floors B-2 Olin and Uris will hold approximately 500,000 volumes. (Olin and Uris currently hold around 2 million volumes.)
  - The renovation team is still working on the criteria for the 500,000 volumes, which will stay on central campus during the renovation.
  - Exceptions will be made as needed.
- Beefed-up delivery from the Library Annex
- Graduate carrels relocated to the Fiske Room (the "fishbowl" in Uris Library)

- There are 264 graduate students now occupying carrels (60-80 give up carrels every spring)
- The Fiske Room has the capacity for 90-100 carrels. Double occupancy will mean that 180-200 graduate students can be assigned to these carrels.
- Additional power and wireless access will be provided. The 9 existing public computers and the lockers will be retained.
- Secure access to the Fiske Room will be explored.
- Research Reading Rooms consolidated in the Willis or the Kirby Room in Uris.
  - There are 7-8 study rooms for 13 disciplines in Olin.
  - All the research room collections shelved together. Reserve readings kept at the circulation desk.
  - Additional power and furniture will be provided.
- Faculty studies
  - One locked room will be provided with assigned work spaces and shelves.

Comments included:

- Good that graduate study space will be unified and that there will be carrels provided.
- To provide alternative study space, open up classrooms that have wireless access.
- Encourage the use of other libraries. This is better than studying in classrooms or in Willard Straight Hall. Less isolated.
- Keep other libraries open later. For example, the ILR Library closes at 11 PM Sunday through Thursday.
- Concern about the locked rooms (graduate student carrels, faculty studies) that may be sparsely used while undergraduates are crowded
- With large portion of the collection not available for browsing, virtual browsing capability should be available.

### 3) Issues from Council members

- Poster/plotter printing at Mann Library. Sometimes have to wait 1/2 hour for an attendant to submit the job because you can not submit from all computers.
- Recalls: all books on a topic were recalled in a single day. *Anne suggested that in cases like these you should approach the Access Services desk for intervention.*