

## Notes from the Student Library Advisory Council Meeting, March 8, 2010

Members attending: Emily Cusick, Omair Khan, Heather Levy, Lauren Mangano, Ashley, Brian McGlade, Alka Menon, Erin Penner, Amy Richter, William Spencer

Also attending: Ken Bongort, student in CS5150; Andrew Borgha, reporter for the *Cornell Daily Sun*

Attending from the Library: Anne Kenney, Carl A. Kroch University Librarian; Tony Cosgrave, ; John Saylor, Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources and Special Collections; Kornelia Tancheva, Director of Olin & Uris Libraries; Ed Weissman, Assistant to the University Librarian

### 1. Olin Fire Safety Improvements Project

Kornelia Tancheva, Director of Olin & Uris Libraries, briefed the Council on the Olin Fire Safety Project, which is expected to get underway at the beginning of June and run through the end of 2011. The project is intended to address fire safety (sprinklers, fire alarms and smoke detectors), but not environmental (HVAC--heating, ventilation, air-conditioning), or programmatic (study space) issues. The project is being driven by a University project management team with Library input. On floors 3-7 the top shelves of the stacks will be temporarily removed to provide room for the sprinkler system. Floors under construction will be closed to public use for 8-10 weeks at a time but material will be paged once a day. Planning is underway to provide carrel and faculty study users on affected floors with alternative space which might involve sharing carrels on other floors in Olin and/or relocating to Uris Library. The plans for the graduate reading rooms have not been finalized—the team is working on finding a location for the materials during construction. At the end of the project, the Olin and Uris library collections will be merged and remapped into a single collection with some items that had been housed in Olin moved to Uris. Decisions about the remapping are being made in consultation with the Library Humanities Research Collections Committee, a group of faculty designated by the chairs of the humanities departments and program directors who meet regularly with Kornelia. Information about the project will be updated regularly on the Olin Fire Safety Improvements Project web site <http://blogs.cornell.edu/firesafety/>.

Comments included:

- Isn't there a danger of the books getting wet with a sprinkler system? How do you protect the collection? Anne responded that the greater danger to the collections and building occupants is fire. The Library has a well trained Preservation Department and a freezer located at the Library Annex that is used to save books that get wet.

### 2. The Library's New iPhone/iPod Touch application and Mobile Site

Tony Cosgrave, co-chair of the Library Outside the Library (LOL) group, and Ken Bongort, a student from the CS 5150: Software Engineering class, reported on the Library's iPhone app and mobile site. Using input from the 2008-09 Student Library Advisory Council, LOL and a team of students from CS 5150 developed an iPhone/iPod Touch app that brings a number of valuable library resources and services to the both devices. These include searching the Library catalog, managing your library account (MyAccount), where you can see what materials you have checked out, when they are due, and renew, access to Ask a Librarian where you can all, e-mail or text a question, access to library hours and other information for each of the library units, and links to various mobile enabled links including RefWorks, EBSCO and IEEE. In conjunction with this project a Library mobile home page <http://library.cornell.edu/m> was developed that is compatible with any mobile device and provides many of the same services as the iPhone/iPod Touch app. You can download the app at Cool Tools from

CUL Labs < <https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/CULLABS/Home>>. The PowerPoint presentation is available on the Council wiki at <<https://confluence.cornell.edu/download/attachments/90736818/SLAC+Mobile+Library+presentation+3-8-10.pptx>>

Ideas from Council members for future developments included access to reserves, Borrow Direct, ILL, and a feedback link in the iPhone app. At the same time someone commented that the mobile site should not be seen as replacement for the use of a PC for certain activities such as Borrow Direct and ILL. Some things will work better on a mobile device and they should be the development focus.

### 3. The Cornell Open-Access Publication (COAP) Fund and Open-Access (OA) Publishing

John Saylor, Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources and Special Collections, told the Council about the Cornell Open-Access Publication (COAP) Fund <<http://www.library.cornell.edu/compact/index.html>> and the ways the Library is supporting Open-Access (OA) Publishing. See John's handout <https://confluence.cornell.edu/download/attachments/90736818/COAP+Talking+pts.docx> and the *Student Statement on the Right to Research* <http://www.righttoresearch.org/students/statement.shtml>, which was endorsed in a resolution passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly. A similar resolution is being considered by the Student Assembly.

In response to a question about how to convince faculty and researchers to publish in OA journals that don't have as much prestige as subscription journals, John responded that many OA journals are of high quality and prestige, for example the Public Library of Science (PLOS) journals. In addition, policies adopted at several institutions require faculty (often with an opt out provision) to deposit a copy of the papers they submit for publication into a publicly accessible institutional repository. John stressed that a multifaceted approach is needed to make progress in this arena.

### 4. Library Strategic Planning

Anne Kenney reported on the status of the unit library reviews. See her handout *Process & Timeline for Unit Library Reviews* at <https://confluence.cornell.edu/download/attachments/90736818/Process+timeline+for+unit+library+reviews.pdf>. In addition to the unit library reviews, work is progressing on a review of academic technology across the university by the Library and CIT, and the review of administrative functions. In response to the Provost's directive to enhance support for collections, the Library is reorienting the rest of its capital campaign to collection support. For more complete information see Library Strategic Planning: February 2010 Summary at [http://www.library.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/LibStrategicPlanning\\_Feb2010Summary\\_public.pdf](http://www.library.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/LibStrategicPlanning_Feb2010Summary_public.pdf)

Comments included:

- What are the intended outcomes of these reviews? RESPONSE: Savings through synergies and possibly more individual and group study space.
- Will space revert to the colleges or the Library? RESPONSE: The Library only controls Olin, Uris, Kroch and the Library Annex. Nevertheless, the Library recommended and the Provost acknowledged in his directive that "such a plan [for unit consolidations] must also provide for maintaining an appropriate level of student study space The Provost's Office will work with the Library and the affected units to determine how vacated space will be allocated."

### 5. Announcement

- The Provost is conducting a "midterm" review of the University Librarian. Anne said that she would be sending the Provost contact information for members of the Student Library Advisory Council so you may be contacted.

- Anne will hold a Graduate Student Tea and Sherry Reception on April 6 from 4:30-6:00 in 2B48 Kroch Library. (See the full announcement, appended below which will appear in the Graduate School Announcements soon.)
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### **Graduate Student Reception in Kroch Library April 6**

Anne R. Kenney, the Carl A. Kroch University Librarian, invites all graduate students to a tea and sherry reception Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in Kroch Library, Level 2B48. This is a great opportunity for you to learn more about the library's strategic planning process, the Olin Library fire safety improvement project, and our new study on how the Library can positively influence attrition/completion rates among PhD students in the humanities.

Your thoughts and concerns are important to us and we hope to see many of you at the reception.

Complimentary sherry, tea, and biscuits will be served and you will also have time to view the spectacular exhibition "Abraham Lincoln: Last Full Measure of Devotion." As space is limited, RSVPs are required by contacting **Rachel Brill at rib54** by March 30<sup>th</sup>. To get to the reception, enter the front doors of Olin Library and continue straight ahead until you reach the end of the hallway; take the elevator or stairs down two levels.