

The Student Library Advisory Council will meet on Monday, April 6 from 5-6 pm in 201 Olin Library. This is the final meeting of the year. Food and beverages will be provided. The agenda includes:

1) Physical Sciences Library closing (20 min.)

The Physical Sciences Library will close at the end of 2009. A group of faculty and students from the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Engineering will work with the Library in developing a transition strategy to ensure that their needs continue to be met. One area we will focus on is enhancing online access to critical resources through electronic subscriptions and book digitization. We will also continue to provide research and instruction services for faculty and students. Physical space (onsite and at other libraries) for studying, research consultations, access to print collections, and other needs will also be investigated as part of the transition. ***What ideas do you have about how to make the transition as smooth as possible for students? What concerns do you have about this closing?***

2) Working with the Columbia University Library (TooCool) (10 min.)

The Cornell Library is investigating a close alliance with the Columbia University Libraries. We imagine building an enduring and transformative alliance between our libraries that will enable us to achieve greater efficiencies and effectiveness and to address new challenges through our combined forces. It also offers opportunities for growth and specialization, as well as joint investments in new initiatives and services even in the face of reduced budgets. ***What concerns do you have, if any, about such a partnership?***

3) Strategic Planning and the Council (20 min.)

By the end of two years, the Cornell Library must be prepared to operate its programs and services with a much reduced budget. We are facing a time of major change--this will not be business as usual, with a little tinkering around the edges. We will make substantial cuts in some areas; we will protect others; and we will support growth in new areas to sustain the library. We will re-conceive processes; we will take on sacred cows; and we will emerge from this a highly responsive, effective academic partner on campus and in the scholarly community.

At the same time, even in the face of budget cuts, we must continue to invest in new directions to ensure that we keep pace with the needs of learners, teachers, and researchers. In the coming years, there will be more demands on library resources that will require the reallocation of funds. Indeed one of the first things the Library Executive Team did in considering budget reductions was to envision CUL's future and identify some principles for investment:

- We invest in collections that reflect the changing academic needs of the university community.
- We invest in facilities that enhance critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, contemplation, and productivity.
- We invest in our staff who serve as bridges to link teaching and research with scholarly resources.
- We invest in partnerships with faculty in the education of Cornell students.
- We invest in innovations that enable new forms of scholarship and creative expression.

- We invest in tools and services that help organize and preserve Cornell scholars' digital assets.
- We invest in new capabilities for knowledge discovery, exploration, and understanding.
- We invest in transformative processes that achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency.

As the Library begins a strategic planning process to develop a roadmap for change, we'd like your thoughts on these principles and, more generally, on issues you are concerned about.

We'd also like your thoughts on how the Student Library Advisory Council can best contribute to this process. Would you suggest any changes to how the Council operates that would enable you to contribute more effectively?

4) Your issues and how the library can better assist you (10 min.)

Follow-up on issues raised at the March 2 meeting and an opportunity for you to ask questions, offer suggestions, and to raise issues of concern about the Cornell University Library.