

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Ted Bergfelt (Gumberg Library), Mr. Zachary Hudak (Student Government Association), Mrs. Bridget Euliano (Gumberg Library), Dr. Benjamin Binder (Music), Dr. Bogdan Bucur (McAnulty College), Dr. Therese Bonin (McAnulty College), Dr. Pam Koerner (School of Pharmacy), Dr. Darius Prier (School of Education), Ms. Cheryl Read (Graduate & Professional Students), Dr. Skip Kingston (Faculty Senate), Dr. Luann Richardson (School of Nursing), Dr. Laverna Saunders (Gumberg Library/chair), Dr. Michael Seaman (Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences), Dr. Suhail Abboushi (School of Business), Dr. Diane Williams (School of Health Sciences), Dr. James Ulrich (School of Leadership and Professional Advancement).

Functions: The purposes of the University Library Committee (ULC) are: to advise the Provost and the University Librarian on the formulation of library policy in relation to the development of resources for instruction and research; on the formulation of policy for the allocation of library resources; on the development of library facilities; and on the development of a general program of library services to Duquesne University as a whole within the framework of the Mission. The ULC also provides a forum for communication and discussion about library-related concerns.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The ULC met as a group four times during the academic year: October 21, November 18, February 20, March 19. This year we changed the format to focus on one “hot topic” for discussion at each meeting and listing announcements on the agenda.

The October topic was “Department/School Allocations,” and Mrs. Euliano led the discussion. She reviewed the allocation system used for the past decade and outlined a proposed new system that would allow any faculty member to send order requests to the library. After discussing pros and cons and asking questions, committee members shared a willingness to try this new approach in FY14/15.

The November topic was “RefWorks Decision and Citation Software Options,” with Ted Bergfelt sharing the library’s recommendation to cancel RefWorks and move to another product, probably EndNote. Mr. Bergfelt listed the reasons that RefWorks no longer met expectations and polled school representatives for their preferred citation product. The committee agreed that cancelling RefWorks at the end of the fiscal year was acceptable.

In February Dr. Therese Bonin, Dr. Bogdan Bucur and Ted Bergfelt reported on their collaboration to develop a Plan for Information Fluency. Their project represents a case study within the broader topic of “New Approaches to Information Literacy/Fluency.” The opportunity to apply for a CIC Information Fluency Workshop on Philosophy, Religious Studies, and the History of Ideas was the catalyst for a library, Philosophy Department and Theology Department to partnership. This topic generated a lively discussion with student input.

The final meeting in March focused on the topic of “New Vision for Gumberg Library: What do you expect of the library, looking to 2020?” The discussion following the format of a SWOT Analysis, with members listing library strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. In addition, students and faculty stated unmet expectations of the library as points to pursue in space and program planning.

CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

The University Library Committee had productive discussions with the Hot Topic format this year so we will continue that for the next academic year. We continued to maintain the ULC guide on the library’s main web page for easy access to minutes, reports and other information. One challenge is finding common dates and times that enable everyone to attend and participate in meetings. We used email to share information and obtain feedback from members who had schedule conflicts. We appreciated the questions and comments from our SGA and Graduate and Professional Student Organization representatives and need student participation to continue.