

Library Committee
Meeting Minutes, February 15, 2010

Present: Elizabeth Gillaspay, Jeff Coffey, Miguel Leatham, Till Meyn, Penny Moore, Karen Steele, Sarah McNeely, Samuel Negus, June Koelker (ex officio), Tracy Hull (ex officio), James Lutz (visitor)

Absent: John Harvey (on sabbatical), Abbey Brokos, Laura Wheelis, Yushau Sodiq, Matt Chumchal

1) Library Strategic Plan activities (e-college embedding and complete website redesign --Hull)
Tracy Hull, Associate Dean of the Library, reported that the web redesign for the library was completed in late 2009. Their main priorities in the redesign – de-cluttering the main page and removing duplicate information – were achieved. Indeed, the feedback received so far (approximately 85% positive) indicates that our redesign has been a marked improvement on what we had in the past. They are still considering a few tweaks (for example, adding a link for myaccount on the main page; moving the hours of operation to a more visible place). They will also be implementing a usability study to poll users more broadly to see if the library accomplished the goals of the redesign.

The library is piloting a program of embedding a librarian for courses that use eCollege. The embedded librarian monitors threaded discussion and provides resources for assignments. The library will be surveying faculty in this program to assess how well it's working and how sustainable it would be to make this available to more faculty who might be interested in such a resource.

2) Library Feasibility Study & need for interim space solutions (Lutz)
James Lutz, Director of Library Services, provided a visual presentation on the feasibility study performed by Cannon Design and completed in Fall of 2009. The library's priorities in a redesign of the library include more space for users (we need to double the seating to 20% of the student population); more space for collection growth; and new arrangements and locations for collaboration, technology, and learning that takes place in the library.

Dean Koelker presented the feasibility study to the Faculty Senate. Ken Wiseman of Cannon Design made a presentation about the feasibility study to the TCU Buildings and Ground Subcommittee of the board of trustees at the fall Board meeting. There is, at present, no firm or fixed plans for moving forward from this feasibility study, however.

3) Metrics for electronic usage (Koelker)
Dean Koelker explained that the library plans to drop additional electronic outlets in select areas of the library over spring break to address the greater needs of users to plug in while they're working at the library.

4) Budget Update (Koelker)
Dean Koelker explained that for FY 2011, the library is funded for journal inflation and a few additional databases. The 8% budget cut from FY 2010 has not been restored in the library's 2011 budget, however.

