UAMS Library Advisory Committee Meeting

The UAMS Library Advisory Committee met from 11:30am-1:00pm, November 20, 2012, in the Library’s 3rd floor videoconferencing room. Attendees included Steve Boone, Zoran Bursac, Karen Davis, Neena Grissom, Bill Gurley, Daphne Hyatt, Kristen Sterba (for Bobby McGehee), Bruce Newton, and Mary Ryan. Neena Grissom has replaced Lori Cline as a CON representative.

Budget Update –The Library still needs to cut about $75,000 in expenses to balance the base budget because of the deficit carryover from FY11, when the budget was cut $160,000.

The Library is negotiating with Elsevier and the other UA libraries on renewal of the 3-year agreement for Elsevier journals, which includes a set limit on cost increases during the three years. The Library proposed cutting $45,000 in Elsevier journals and requested a change in the wording of the opt out clause because it says that the Library can opt out before the end of the last year only if state funding is cut significantly (the Library’s funding does not come totally from the state and a flat budget causes a significant deficit since the cost of journals and databases goes up an average of 8% per year - the clause doesn’t acknowledge this issue). Elsevier also proposed charging an annual “sharing” fee of several thousand dollars for having access to the journals paid for by the other UA libraries.

The American Chemical Society journals are rising 71% in cost for 2014. The Library may cancel all or just some of them, but subscribing to just the most heavily used ones will end up costing the same amount as all 40 of them cost this year. Also, the Library will have large cost increases for UpToDate for the next three years.

The Library added two significant expenses to the base budget this year: switching to hosted software (about $10,000 annually) for the online interlibrary loan system because running it locally was too time-consuming and difficult, and connecting the security camera system to the UAMS police system for better security (costs about $400 in monthly fees charged by the police department for having the cameras connected).

Scholarly Communications - The NIH recently announced that in the Spring of 2013 it will start delaying processing of non-competing continuation grant awards if publications arising from that award are not in compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy. The policy requires that anyone receiving NIH funding must deposit the articles resulting from their NIH-funded research in PubMed Central (an online repository of full-text journal articles) within one year of publication. The UAMS Library has been participating in a pilot project to track compliance for UAMS authors, and has been working with authors to deposit their articles. The UAMS compliance rate is 83%, while the national average is about 75%, but it is very important that all UAMS authors are in compliance so they will remain eligible for NIH funding. Mary asked the Committee representatives to encourage their colleges’ authors to contact Susan Steelman in the Library if they need assistance with depositing their articles.

Historical Research Center - The annual dinner and business meeting of the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions was held on September 6 in the Stephens Spine Institute, with Dr. Joe Bates speaking on the history of tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment. The scanning of publications of the Arkansas Medicine Society from the 1870’s through 1922 is going well, with an anticipated completion date of December, 2012.

Learning Resource Center Hours - Closing the Learning Resource Center on Saturdays was discussed, since there is not enough use to warrant having it open on Saturdays. The person who staffs the LRC on Saturdays has many other duties that need to be done during the regular workweek, including working in the LRC on weeknights. No one on the Committee expressed major concerns about the Saturday closing, so it will go into effect on January 5, 2013.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of the Library’s renovation projects (see summary below).

The next Library Advisory Committee meeting will be held in March of 2013.
UAMS Library 2012 Renovations

5th floor
- New carpet
- Removed gates and large desk

3rd floor
- Removed S end stacks and built study room (50 seats, variety of seating, quiet)
- Removed N end stacks for new study area (20 seats)
- Rearranged NW corner for better study area
- Renovated four group study rooms and added large monitors
- New carpet

2nd floor
- Removed stacks to enlarge study area on 2nd
- Removed stacks to add IPE office – will be converted to study room in 3 years
- Renovated three group study rooms and added large monitors
- New carpet

1st floor
- Active Learning Center (192 seats)
- Enclosed SE corner for better study area (added to 24/7 space)
- Converted four offices to study areas (24 seats; added to 24/7 space)

Replaced 35 year old chairs with 100 new chairs on 2nd and 3rd floors and redistributed old ones
Upgraded security camera system – now connected to UAMS Police system
Reorganized entire journal and book collection for better access

Net new seats added – 225+ (50% increase)

To be done:

- Recarpet stairs – in process
- Artwork – in process
- Renovate front entrance, replace information desk, and put carpet over brick – plans finalized
- Enclose walkway on 5th with glass – estimate requested
- Build wall on 5th to separate office from study area – Space Committee request submitted
- Renovate 2 AV group rooms on 3rd – work order submitted
- Remove most shelving on 2nd East to create more study spaces – in planning stage
- Renovate Library elevator – approved for Summer of 2013

11/20/12