UAMS Library Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2012

The UAMS Library Advisory Committee met February 28, 2012, from 11:30am to 1pm in the Videoconferencing Room on the 3rd floor of the Library. Participants were: Robert Bradsher (COM); Zoran Bursac (COPH); Lori Cline (CON); Karen Davis (CON); Mark Estes (COP); Bill Gurley (COP); Daphne Hyatt (Library); Bobby McGehee (Graduate School); Bruce Newton (COM); Kevin Ryan (COPH & ACHI); Kathy Rye (CHRP); Steve Boone (OED); Mary Ryan (Library); and Jan Hart (Library).

Budget Update

Mary reported that cuts were still being made to balance the Library’s base budget. Many journal cancellations (about $130,000 worth) went into effect in January, so users will start feeling the effects soon. She thanked the committee members again for their help in distributing potential cancellation lists and gathering input from their colleges. Each remaining journal subscription will be reviewed as it is due for renewal to determine what further cuts will be made. If the Library does not receive a budget cut to cover the approximately 8% increase in the cost of journals for the coming year, many more cuts will need to be made.

One of the products experiencing a large cost increase this year is UpToDate. The cost will rise 33%, and the Library does not have the money to cover the increase. Mary and Jan have meet with college, clinical and IT representatives to discuss the increase, and the money needed for the increase was included in the Library’s recent budget request. If the money is not received, and no other unit on campus is able to help cover the increase, this product may be cancelled. Also, the cost is expected to rise significantly over the next two years as well, so this is a continuing problem.

Scholarly Communication

Mary reported on the introduction in Congress of the Research Works Act (RWA), which would prevent any government agency from enacting a policy similar to the NIH Public Access Policy, which requires that authors receiving research funding from NIH deposit their articles in the PubMed Central repository within one year of publication. This policy ensures that other researchers and the public, whose tax dollars funded the research, can freely access the articles. After much pushback from the public, librarians, some research groups, and even some publishing groups, the sponsors of the bill decided to withdraw it.

Probably partly as a result of the introduction of the RWA, the Federal Research Public Access Policy was introduced. If enacted, this bill, which was originally drafted a few years ago but not voted on by the Congress, would require that the top ten federal agencies funding research develop a policy similar to the NIH Public Access Policy to ensure that the articles resulting from research they funded would be freely available. Action is expected on this bill later this year.

Library Renovations

Because of the need for an active learning center (ALC) to support college curricula changes and interprofessional education, the Library is being renovated to include the center as well other needs. The ALC will be on the first floor of the Library in the 24/7 study space, three new areas (formerly offices and an open study space) will be added to the 24/7 space, a large new study area will be built on the 3rd floor, and the administrative offices will be moved to new offices being built on the 2nd floor. Many journal stacks were removed on the 2nd floor for the offices and the 3rd floor for the new study space. A few more ranges of shelving will be removed on the north end of the 3rd floor later to provide even more study space. The Committee members spent a large portion of the meeting discussing the renovations, the upcoming changes in the College of
Medicine curriculum, interprofessional education, and active learning activities in general. Some sources of information on active learning (including team-based learning) activities are as follows:

http://scaleup.ncsu.edu/

http://www.utexas.edu/academic/ctl/largeclasses/#tbl

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gW_M426V2E0


http://its.uiowa.edu/instruction/tile/

The meeting was adjourned at 1pm.