UAMS Library Advisory Committee Meeting
July 13, 2011

The UAMS Library Advisory Committee met on July 13, 2011 from 11:30am-1pm in the Access Grid Room on the 3rd floor of the Library. Participants included Robert Bradsher (COM), Zoran Bursac (COPH), Mark Estes (COP), Bill Gurley (COP), Jan Hart (Library), Daphne Hyatt (Library), Bruce Newton (COM), Mary Ryan (Library), Christine Sheffer (COPH) and Rhonda Sledge (CHRP).

Budget

The Library’s budget situation was discussed in-depth. Daphne Hyatt presented a list of potential journal and database cancellations, and the group discussed how to publicize the list and gather/analyze input. Committee members agreed to distribute the list to their respective colleges, and information about the list and a call for input will be provided on the front page of the Library’s website. August 5 was selected as the deadline for providing input. Previous cuts in expenses were reviewed, including the 13.5 positions that have been eliminated in the Library in the past 12 years. Other cuts are listed in an attachment following these minutes.

The new proposed pricing model for UpToDate (a very popular clinical information resource) was also discussed. If the model is fully implemented as proposed by the vendor, the cost will nearly triple in two years to a level that is well beyond what the Library can afford to pay. UpToDate representatives have suggested that the hospital be asked to pay for this product, a strategy which has been successful in several other academic health centers. Mary Ryan and Jan Hart met with the CIO, hospital, COM and COP representatives to discuss the situation and attempt to identify alternative sources of funding for the product. Library representatives and the CIO will continue to work with UpToDate representatives to negotiate a firm price for next year and to try to identify sources of funding to cover the increased cost before the June, 2012 renewal date.

Jan Hart presented information about the budget situations in several other academic health sciences libraries and how they are coping with reduced budgets.

Strategic Plan

Mary Ryan gave a brief update on implementation of the Library’s strategic plan which was developed last spring. Improvements in communication methods (internal and external) have been made, the physical facility has been thoroughly cleaned, and quotes for minor repairs are being obtained. Much work remains to be done to implement the strategic plan.

Reorganization of Library Faculty/Staff

Also as part of the strategic plan, a significant reorganization of faculty and staff was implemented July 1 to provide a more efficient allocation of responsibilities and resources. Dena Plaisted retired as the head of Document Access Services (circulation and interlibrary loan) and Systems, that position was converted to a much needed Head of Education and Reference Services position, Libby Ingram (formerly the head of Circulation) assumed responsibility for both Circulation and Interlibrary Loan, Heather Smith assumed responsibilities for Systems, the Education and Reference Department assumed responsibilities for the outreach program, and Daphne Hyatt assumed responsibility for maintenance of the Ill library system (online catalog, circulation and acquisition systems). Jan Hart will relinquish her Head of
Education and Reference duties as soon as a person is hired to fill that position, but will remain the Associate Director of the Library and assume additional assessment duties.

**DynaMed Project**

With Dena Plaisted’s retirement, Jan Hart also assumed responsibility for the DynaMed statewide project. The project, which is funded by the UAMS Library, the AHEC office/regional programs, and the ACH Library, provides access to the DynaMed clinical information tool to any licensed health professional in Arkansas. Usage is steadily climbing, and efforts during the year will focus on publicity and assisting hospitals to link to the product from within their hospitals through IP verification.

**NIH Public Access Policy**

Mary Ryan thanked Bob Bradsher for scheduling a presentation to the Internal Medical Department faculty on compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy. Mary will make the presentation to the Internal Medicine faculty on September 21. Other Committee members were reminded to continue scheduling similar presentations in their colleges. The UAMS compliance rate has improved significantly during the past year to over 80%, but it needs to be 100%.

**VCAA Search Committee Report**

Mary Ryan reported that the Search Committee for the VCAA position (to whom Mary reports) is still in the process of reviewing applications for the position.

**Announcements**

A new art exhibit by Mike Butner is on display on the 2nd floor of the Library, and an exhibit on the 175th anniversary of the National Library of Medicine is available on the first floor. An exhibit on Civil War medicine produced by the National Library of Medicine (NIH) will be on display in the Library from August 15 to September 24, and Bill Gurley is working with the Library’s Historical Research Center (HRC) staff to prepare related exhibits highlighting the Civil War medicine historical resources available in the HRC.

The meeting adjourned at 1pm.

**Action Items**

Continue to encourage colleagues to provide input about potential journal/database cancellations

Schedule presentations on the NIH Public Access Policy

Send ideas on ways to promote DynaMed throughout the state