Librarian’s Meeting. November 28, 2006 notes by Fran Rosen


[I missed a couple of meetings]

Richard reported that he had been at a Dean’s Council meeting and had an update meeting with Michael Harris scheduled. He planned to talk to Michael Harris about IT issues, such as the North Service Desk and the Server Room. He said that on Monday he & Melinda toured the Archives with Dr. Harris. They will be moving forward on restating the case for allowing the Archives to move into the area designated for them. Dr. Harris is very supportive.

One thing that was discussed at the Dean’s Council meeting was Vista (the new WebCT). There will be a pilot group that will convert their content to Vista and will report on any concerns. Julia is in the Content group so the library will be involved. Academic Affairs is having a lot of input into Vista, which is good.

Also, the idea of a coffee shop in FLITE has reappeared. Somebody from Starbucks visited FLITE. They envision a coffee shop in the Extended Hours area, using the vending area and part of the Family Room. They are willing to provide more comfortable furniture for the Extended Hours area, which would be nice for the students. They would vend spill-proof cups and encourage refills. There was some discussion about regular Starbucks cups being used in the Extended Hours area, and whether we are inconsistent in our food and beverage policy. Rick pointed out that we are less worried about damage to keyboards and mouses than about damage to books and journals, which can be difficult (or impossible) to replace. Ann said we should try to get out a message about the FLITE environment, rather than just have rules that people don’t understand the purpose of. Richard suggested that this could be discussed as part of the library tour given for FSUS classes.

Rick announced that we are putting up a new server for UniPrint. There will probably be no effect until next semester. There are issues with large files printing slowly or not at all and they are hoping this will help.

Julia announced plans to update the subject guides. She and Jodi will work on this. We need a consistent look, and also the “print” and “web” portions should be merged. There was some discussion. Some people felt that if we are looking at the guides, we might want to update them, and look at the content. Paul brought up that we do have existing policies & guidelines for the subject guides, and we should look at these and see if they still meet the needs of the library. It was proposed that a project team be created to manage updating the policies & guidelines, and coordinate updating the subject guides. Ann B brought up the look/feel of the page that the guides are listed on, and thought we might want to look at making that more user-friendly.
Julia stated that by the next librarians meeting we should have a prototype for the portal page. She also noted that 796 students and 87 faculty have signed up for RefWorks. There was some discussion about how to get more faculty to be aware of & use RefWorks. Some libraries have an ongoing series of workshops for faculty. Some faculty don’t need RefWorks, and some are too busy in the Fall to look at it. The liaisons should make sure faculty know about it.

Melinda distributed a proposal for the creation of the FIR Implementation Team. This is a group that has already been working, but Melinda thought we should actually create a Team, using the Team concept that the library uses. There was some discussion about where we are at with FIR. FIR is not linked to from the FLITE web site. Eventually it should be linked to from FLITE, and from the Ferris web page. We need something concrete to take out to the faculty, with examples to show them. This is something the FIR team is working on. Also, there will be training for liaisons, probably in January. Richard commented that there is a lot of interest in Institutional Repositories. It was decided that people have til 5 pm on Thursday Nov. 30th to comment on Melinda’s proposal, and then it will be considered accepted.