

LIBRARIANS MEETING
Tuesday, October 14, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room

Attendees:

Kathy Arsenault, Tina Neville, Marcy Carrel, David Cipris, Virginia Champion, Patricia Pettijohn, Jerry Notaro, David Brodosi, Kaya Van Beynen, Berrie Watson, guest Dr. Norine Noonan, and Jean Ferguson for minutes

Announcements:

Kathy reminded everyone that she would be out of the office in California from Thursday through Monday. Dr. Noonan then arrived at 2:10, and all introduced themselves to her.

Discussion:

Dr. Noonan began with an update on the search committee for the position of library dean, stating that it was almost set up short of one member from one of the colleges. She has drafted the position description, with Kathy's help, and the advertisement. Suggestions for where to advertise are welcome and should be passed on to Zeynep. Dr. Frank Biafora will be the committee chair and Zeynep will be the "backstop." She asked that Berrie put the ad on the library's web site with a link to the position description. She wants a password-protected web site for the search committee, both as a place to post CVs in order to eliminate paper and also to use for feedback forms. The only outside person on the committee will be a representative from the USF Tampa library, Mark Greenberg. Dr. Noonan will talk with SAPL's president about giving the SAPL members an opportunity to weigh in on the choice. Jerry asked if she thought USFSP's accreditation probation would affect the search, and she didn't. She said she would be contacting all of her former networks regarding applicants and asked that others do so as well. Virginia mentioned that no A&P library employees were on the committee, and Dr. Noonan said she was open to reconsidering that issue, though she had to be mindful of gender balance and diversity. She suggested the librarians pass on any interview questions to the search committee members. She also strongly suggested phone interviews or video conferences as well as on-campus interviews, with library members in attendance. She hopes the committee will start working in early to mid January, conduct phone interviews in March, on-campus interviews in April, and reach its goal of making a recommendation to the Chancellor before the end of the spring term. She indicated there would be multiple opportunities for the finalists to meet the library employees. It was Dr. Noonan's opinion that we would get better quality candidates if their CVs were kept private for a longer time, but that it might not be possible due to Florida's "Government in the Sunshine" laws. Jerry brought up the concern about the earlier battle with Tampa regarding USFSP's maintaining local control over its library, and Dr. Noonan said she thinks that battle has been fought and is over. She did try to keep all of the technology fee, which kicks in the fall of 2009, for St. Petersburg, but Tampa rolled over her on that and made no decision

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except that not all of it would go to this campus. We will, however, keep the distance learning fee, to be implemented in the spring. The Florida legislature has been preventing a raise in tuition, so the universities are "feeing" the students to death. Once again Dr. Noonan reassured everyone not to worry about Tampa's taking back Poynter Library, and all breathed sighs of relief.

Virginia asked if there were any thought about IT taking over the library systems, and Dr. Noonan said no. She does find it odd, however, that the library does the IDs, but "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." After the election, though, nobody knows what will happen. She nominated herself to the IT Committee to keep St. Petersburg compatible with Tampa. She is also pressing Jeff Reisberg to form a power users group, as she believes too much paranoia about security stops innovation. Patricia expressed her concern about no book budget if the "shoe drops" after the election, but Dr. Noonan indicated she unfortunately had no answers. Kathy noted that when Dr. Bill Garrison visited our library, he mentioned that the administration was talking about making librarians A&P employees or making them apply for tenure. Dr. Noonan hadn't heard of this and said it shouldn't happen to St. Pete, but she said she would try to find out cautiously. She explained that libraries don't have scheduled credit hours so it brings up the faculty to student ratio and makes it look like we have more faculty teaching than we actually do. The national benchmark is actually the credit hour basis, not the faculty to student ratio. She finished by saying that we need more media-enhanced classes that are popular in order to increase demand.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.