Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of minutes

2. Faculty Fund for Library Excellence

3. Budget narrative and metrics

4. Paul Courant Visit (April 4 and 5) and FCUL Involvement

5. Adjournment

Call to Order
Council Chair Joyce Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:32 P.M.

1. Review and approval of minutes from January 5, 2011 meeting
The minutes of the January 5, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

2. Faculty Fund for Library Excellence
Draft texts for a Class C Resolution supporting the Faculty Fund for Library Excellence, and a Description, Justification and Development Plan for the fund, were presented to the council.

The council made suggestions for the draft Description, Justification and Development Plan, including the separation of the description and justification parts from the development plan, as it would change over time. Another concern raised was how the fund would work with journal subscriptions. It was suggested that if a faculty member wanted to pay for retention of a journal, the Libraries could require a multi-year commitment and set it up outside of this fund. The council agreed to review the document at its next meeting.

The council then made a number of amendments to the Class C Resolution. The resolution was approved with the amendments and forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee. [The final version is attached as Appendix A.]

3. Budget narrative and metrics
Dean Wilson presented 2012 Budget Materials for the University Libraries, which had been submitted the previous day. She noted that on February 24, she was meeting with the Provost for the Libraries budget hearing/meeting, and requested feedback on the documents from the council. [Documents available online at http://www.washington.edu/admin/pb/home/pdf/bgt-narratives/fy2012/Libraries.pdf.]
Wilson noted that the UW Libraries budget situation had gotten more dire in the last year compared to its ARL competitors. She said they’re presenting the case that they’ve been creative and strategic in cuts but are at a point where there is little that can be done that won’t damage research and teaching missions.

One piece of feedback from the council related to charts showing library expenditures and purchases by UW and comparators, which showed that UW tends to be lower on purchases of monographs. Wilson noted that the current split between journals and monographs is heavily favored toward journals. This led to a brief discussion of the journal bundling system and tough choices faced by the Libraries.

4. Paul Courant Visit (April 4 and 5) and FCUL Involvement (Charles/Tim)
Wilson said that Paul Courant from the University of Michigan would visit UW in April to discuss relationships with the legislature, activities based budgeting, and libraries, and that FCUL could sponsor his public talk. The council agreed to conduct an email vote confirming support of sponsoring Courant’s public presentation.

5. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Minutes by Craig Bosman, Council Support Analyst. cbosman@uw.edu

Present: Faculty: Cooper(Chair), Kot, Mack, Retman, Seaburg
President’s Designee: Wilson
Ex-Officio: Lee, Redalje, Kirkendall
Guests: Chamberlin, Jewell

Absent: Faculty: Hicks, Laird, Mitchell
Ex-Officio: Barker
Resolution Concerning the FACULTY FUND FOR LIBRARY EXCELLENCE

WHEREAS, the University Libraries is one library serving three campuses and is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its staff and the quality, depth, and breadth of its collections of books, journals, and unique materials; and

WHEREAS, in the UW Libraries Triennial Survey the UW faculty ranks the University Libraries as the most important source of information for their work, with collections thoroughly integrated into research and educational initiatives; and

WHEREAS, recent budget cuts have resulted in reductions in collections that have adversely impacted UW faculty research and educational initiatives and that have contributed to the drop in the ranking of the University Libraries by the Association of Research Libraries out of the top 15% for the first time since 1932; and

WHEREAS, current and emeritus UW faculty may wish to support the University Libraries’ collections financially to benefit themselves, Washington State and the world; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate endorses the proposal of the Faculty Council on University Libraries that the Faculty Fund for Library Excellence (FFLE) be established as a voluntary University gift fund available for current and emeritus faculty donors to support the University Libraries’ collections.

Submitted by:

The Faculty Council on University Libraries

February 4, 2011

To: the

Senate Executive Committee