Library Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes
2007-05-22

Present:
LSEB: Grosenheider, Johnson, Lebbin, Minatodani, Paseng, Peacock (chair), Riedy (recorder), Rutter.
LIBRARY SENATE: Cartwright, Chang, Chantiny, Christensen, Dawrs, Frost, Furuhashi, Herring, Horie, Kwok, Mochida, Mohammed, Ni, Polansky, Sack, Saeki, Sinclair, Suzuki, Wermager, Zastrow

TOTAL ATTENDEES: 28
TOTAL VOTING MEMBERS: 27

Convened:
1:30 p.m. in Hamilton Library Room 113 by Peacock (chair).

1. Minor Wording Changes to Library Senate Elections Committee Policies and Procedures

Peacock briefly discussed wording changes needed to the Elections Committee Policies and Procedures document and requested Senate approval to make those changes. Those changes in the document located at http://www.hawaii.edu/libsen/ECP&P20070409.doc are:

- p.2, II. Timetable, A. Policies: change FROM: "Holding nominating and final ballots to elect Senate officers" TO: "Held ballot to elect Senate officers"
- p.2, II. Timetable, A. Policies: change FROM: "Nov 30: Hold nominating and final ballots to elect members of the LPC..." TO: "Nov. 30: Hold ballot to elect members of the LPC..." [NB: This change will need to be considered in light of possible LPC revisions at the next full Senate meeting]
- p.2, II. Timetable, A. Policies: change FROM: "May 1: Hold nominating and final ballots to elect members of the Election Committee ..." TO: "May 1: Hold ballot to elect members of the Election Committee ..."

Approval granted.

2. Impact of State Legislature Failure to Fund Library Budget Request

Peacock introduced Interim University Librarian Paula Mochida to speak about the impact of the State Legislature's refusal to fund the Library's budget requests. Though the House approved funding of $1.5 million and 5 positions, the bill failed in Conference Committee. Mochida said the Manoa administration was "floored" by the
failure of the Legislature to pass the BOR-approved request, especially in light of the fact that the legislature funded non BOR requests. The result is the library is in a similar situation to last year. For the next fiscal year (2008/2009), expenditures for the gathering plan and serials (mostly Elsevier Science Direct titles) will be reduced by about $1 million. A pay-per-view plan may be instituted for the serials being cancelled though Mochida is doubtful the money for this will be sufficient. Mochida is hopeful the University administration will give the library an additional $500,000; otherwise, further cuts will be necessary. As of now, the library is not proposing to cut discretionary spending as that was cut in half this year. She also said that all positions are guaranteed.

Mochida said she has told the chancellor that the library needs built-in annual increases to its budget to account for inflation and growth in programs. Many, though not all, ARL libraries have such funding mechanisms, so they are better able to deal with inflation and program growth. She noted that most ARL libraries do not have built-in increases to their budgets, but that they are able to negotiate increases of 4-5% per year for inflation.

In answer to several questions, Mochida had the following to say:

- She, John Awakuni, and Kris Anderson (at the minimum) will be meeting with the Manoa Administration sometime soon to discuss the budget.
- The Manoa Faculty Senate Library Task Force met with her and John Awakuni last week. She believes the Task Force will be able to come up with concrete ways to make the budget situation better.
- Alternate proposals to create a management position for Collection Services out of a faculty position have been considered, but none have panned out so far. With 2 management positions soon to be vacant, it may be possible to rearrange some management responsibilities within the library administration.
- The soon-to-depart Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is recommending to the chancellor that a search for a new library director be postponed until the situation in the library "settles down." Mochida said she believes this refers to the bad budget situation as reported recently in the Chronicle of Higher Education. Some Senate members responded that the budget situation is unlikely to improve in the near future.
- Some state legislators objected to the negative comments they received during the last session about their alleged neglect to deal responsibly with the library's budget situation, and this may have contributed to the failure of the bill to pass. Mochida said it is important that the library and other interested parties package a "positive" message to the legislature. The Senate should also consider follow-ups to the forums it held last January.
- Mochida generally agreed that added fees assessed to support the library were desirable but that the idea has been opposed in the past.
- Mochida has requested that Anderson try to assign percents of vested interest in Science Direct to departments and then go to those departments to ask for funding support. She does not plan to ask the chancellor for money to support Elsevier journals specifically.
- No long term (5+ years) projections on the impact of continuing flat budgets are being worked on.
- Mochida pointed out that there seems to be a disconnect in the university's success in being among the top 25 universities in attracting funding for research and the library's position of 79 among ARL libraries. If we are to be a research university, then the University administration needs to acknowledge its responsibility to provide sufficient funding to support a research library.
- The Vice Chancellor for research has said he does not intend to continue to support Web of Science, though getting a percentage of RTRF funding is still a possibility.

Mochida announced that she had a meeting this morning (5/22) with about 20 civil services employees to discuss ways to increase their participation. She will have another meeting tomorrow (5/23)

In answer to a question about the leadership of Access Services, Mochida replied that DeeDee Acosta has agreed to postpone her sabbatical and assume leadership of Access Services as Acting Head.

3. Senate members on Leave Without Pay

Peacock introduced a discussion on the status of Senate members who are on Leave Without Pay. As these members do not attend Senate meetings and in some cases are on Leave Without Pay with the intention of resigning from the library at the end of their leave, counting them for quorum purposes was questioned. Horie read from Roberts Rules of Order which basically states the body can set whatever quorum standards it wishes. She noted among the alternatives that such members could be shifted to Associate status, thereby resolving the quorum issue. Peacock said the issue needs to be dealt with given the number of issues coming up which will need prompt decisions by the Senate and the historic difficulty the Library Senate has had in achieving quorums. Peacock will send out a message to Senate members soliciting suggestions and the issue will be taken up by the LSEB at its next meeting.


5. Review of Administrators

The Senate had decided previously to conduct reviews of administrators every 2 years. As there are no permanent administrators presently, the question of whether to conduct reviews was raised. No resolution was reached and LSEB will discuss the issue. It was noted in the course of the discussion that the legality of reviews under the state's sunshine laws was raised at a recent All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs meeting by President Mcclain. Prof. Tiles indicated that reviews may continue and Peacock will check on status of this matter. Jim Cartwright urged the Senate to continue to conduct administrative reviews to keep this process on the books.

6. Announcements

Alan Grosenheider has agreed to chair the Staff Development Committee.

Bron Solyom has been elected Chair of the Elections Committee

At the next senate meeting in a few weeks the revised LPC policies and procedures will be presented, discussed, and voted on.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by Allen Riedy, secretary
LIBRARY SENATE
