



## SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
IUPUI

### Annual Report of the Library Committee, 2010-2011

The 2010-2011 academic year brought important staff changes at University Library (UL). At the beginning of the fall semester, William (Bill) Orme, relinquished his responsibilities as Liberal Arts team leader to begin a new appointment as the library's Associate Dean for Teaching, Learning, and Research. Responsibilities for this newly created position include (according to the position description) "oversight of the library's reference and research consultation programs, library outreach to the campus, instruction and information literacy activities, collection development, and faculty liaison, including engagement with digital scholarship and scholarly communication issues."

Bill Orme's successor as Liberal Arts team leader is Associate Librarian Frances (Fran) Huehls, who directs the Joseph and Matthew Payton Philanthropic Studies Library (part of UL). A member of the UL staff for more than two decades, she holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education and an M.A. in Philanthropic Studies, both from Indiana University, and has authored or edited a variety of studies, including the co-edited volume *Philanthropy, Volunteerism, and Fundraising in Higher Education* (Pearson, 2007).

Because the Library Committee serves chiefly in an advisory and informational capacity, the group usually meets once a semester. In 2010-2011, the committee met in the fall but not in the spring. At its meeting on September 21, 2010, the committee had a wide-ranging discussion with Fran Huehls, who gave an overview of UL's materials budget allocations. In 2010-2011, for Liberal Arts disciplines, UL budgeted \$324,822 for monographs and \$265,875 for serials. Elizabeth Kryder-Reid (Museum Studies) asked whether the time had come to review how the library apportions monographic purchases in the various disciplines. The current funding formula, which has been in place a number of years, is basically a four-tiered system (with tiers of \$28K, \$19K, \$16K, and \$3K) based on a variety of characteristics of each department or program (number of faculty, number of credit hours taught, number of majors, presence of a graduate program, etc.). Though the library—not the School of Liberal Arts—sets the funding formula, the committee agreed that it would be useful to learn more about how the formula works and where it may be out-of-date (e.g., for departments where new graduate programs have been introduced). The committee members also discussed the complexities involved in devising any equitable formula, including fluctuations in departmental enrollments, the relative emphasis on (and cost of) monographs in the various disciplines, etc. The committee resolved to gather more information from UL staff before making a decision about whether to undertake a full review of allocation policies.

In other business, Fran Huehls asked the committee members for input on what UL might do to be of greater service to Liberal Arts graduate students. One idea, which is currently being explored with the School of Education, would be a one-credit-hour course on library research for graduate students. Liberal Arts departments are encouraged to let the library know if such a course might be useful for their own graduate students.

Finally, the committee discussed an article distributed by committee chair Peter Thuesen (Religious Studies): Patricia Cohen, "Scholars Test Web Alternative to the Venerable Peer Review," *New York Times*, August 24, 2010, pp. A1, A3. The article describes a recent experiment by the journal *Shakespeare Quarterly* to post online four essays not yet accepted for publication and allow readers to critique the pieces. The experiment, which netted more than 450 comments from 41 people, is the latest wrinkle in the development of digital scholarship,

which has been a recurring topic of discussion within the Library Committee over the last several years. The committee has been particularly interested in the rise of open-access journals and the question of how publication in such venues counts toward professors' promotion and tenure. Indeed, in response to a suggestion from the committee, the School of Liberal Arts included the following strategy under Goal #2 ("Continue and improve the quality and productivity of scholarly research and creative activity performed by Liberal Arts faculty and students") of the school's 2010-2015 Strategic Plan:

Promote the publication of research in peer-reviewed open access journals and other forums, as well as the editing of such journals, and assist faculty who wish to establish such a journal. Establish standards for evaluating research that is published in such outlets.

This strategy is based on the following suggestion, which the Library Committee approved in February 2010 in response to a request from the SLA Resources and Planning Committee for ideas for the school's Strategic Plan:

*Bringing scholarship into the digital age*

Old economic models of scholarly publication are increasingly unsustainable as both libraries and scholarly presses adjust to new fiscal realities. SLA faculty should be encouraged to disseminate their scholarship digitally, especially through open-access platforms. Even when signing contracts for traditional print publication, faculty should reserve the right to post copies of their work in open-access repositories online. (For legal guidance on this, consult <http://creativecommons.org>.) SLA faculty should also be encouraged to explore the possibilities of creating or editing new online refereed journals. Open-access journals, textbooks, and digital repositories benefit not only the individual scholar but also the School of Liberal Arts by greatly increasing the visibility and citation of professors' scholarly work. (On open access at IUPUI, see <http://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalscholarship/openaccess>.) Finally, faculty in all SLA disciplines need to integrate information literacy into their teaching to help students learn to navigate the information highway and distinguish between scholarly and unscholarly sources.

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*Chair's Comment:*

I would like to thank the other members of the committee for their service (both as committee members and as library liaisons for their respective departments or programs). In 2010-2011, the members were: Didier Bertrand, Marc Bilodeau, Martina Dalinghaus, Tom Fedor, Philip Goff (SLA administration, non-voting), Mike Hughes, Liz Kryder-Reid, Modupe Labode (Agenda Council representative), Timothy Lyons, Liz Monroe, Scott Pegg, Ron Sandwina, Ben Van Wyke, Pat Wittberg, and Reiko Yonogi.

I have been chair of this committee for six years (since 2005-2006), and during that time, I have been privileged to work with three successive UL team leaders for Liberal Arts: Dolores Hoyt, Bill Orme, and Fran Huehls. They and the other librarians at UL have been steadfast supporters of us in Liberal Arts and dedicated promoters of IUPUI's core educational mission.

Because of my current administrative responsibilities as a department chair, and in anticipation of taking on new committee duties within the School of Liberal Arts, I am seeking to relinquish my leadership role on the committee. (A new committee chair would undoubtedly bring new zeal in scheduling meetings: I apologize for convening only one in 2010-2011!)

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter J. Thuesen