University Library Board
Library Policy Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes--September 15, 2014

Present: Asha Weinstein Agrawal, Daryl Eggers, Bernd Becker, Susan Kendall, Ann Agee, Bethany Shifflett

Invited Guests:
Ken Peter, Political Science
Steve Branz, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies

The subcommittee guests provided some history on the creation of the original library policy. The policy was created in 1998 by the Library Committee, which was made up of a variety of committee chairs from Curriculum & Research, Instruction, Student Affairs, Professional Standards, etc. Pam Stacks served as chair.

At the time the joint library was being created, many faculty members felt the library’s academic mission would be diluted, and the physical collection become less accessible because it would be open to public circulation. In the mid-1990s, there had been concern over extensive weeding of the Political Science collection. The Academic Senate published a resolution about weeding procedures, and some of this language was later incorporated into the 1998 version of the library policy. It was from these concerns that the policy sprang.

Many hearings and focus groups were held before the Library Committee crafted the policy. It was felt that the library policy should be adopted before the Academic Senate voted on the joint library, and this is what happened. The policy received a general endorsement.

The library policy created the University Library Board. It was felt that the old Library Committee was insufficient; the library needed a policy committee that included both campus and library faculty and reported to the Academic Senate. This committee should also be strong enough to provide oversight.

Policy Revision Procedures: Certain aspects of the library are important to different groups depending on their focus. The move to digital material affects faculty differently in different disciplines, and the ULB needs to look out for everyone’s interests. The subcommittee is considering having hearings and open forums to help inform their updating of the library policy. An effort will also be made to inform non-library faculty on library procedures and safeguards provided for the library collection.

The next subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, September 22, at 1:00 pm.