

Council on Libraries and Information Technology  
March 31, 2006

MINUTES

1. OSU:pro--Tim Cain provided a demonstration of the OSU:pro system which is currently in pilot testing on campus. Once fully implemented, it should provide a single resource for the generation of both enterprise wide reports and individual tenure/promotion dossiers and resumes. Insofar as possible data is being obtained routinely on a daily or weekly basis from sources such as the Office of Human Resources, the Registrar's Office and OSURF. Connections have also been made via OhioLINK that will allow individuals to download citations which will include a link back to an abstract in the OhioLINK database.

2. Petition Relating to Libraries' Fine Policy--A number of Faculty from MAPS had submitted a petition to the Director of Libraries proclaiming that the current fine policy of charging \$10/day for recalled items that were not returned was causing an undue hardship on the Faculty in the Department of Mathematics. Roy Joshua, Stephen Milne, Zbigniew Fiedorowicz, and Alexander Dynin attended the Council meeting to present their views.

The petitioners asserted that the fines imposed by the library appeared to be higher than those imposed by other Ohio and Midwestern institutions and that the Math Faculty, who they believe rely more heavily on printed materials than other Departments on campus, were being unduly hampered by the current policies. There was interest in trying to find out if there are other departments that feel they are being unduly penalized by the existing fine structure. They also pointed out that they often didn't receive library notices that were sent via e-mail.

Libraries' personnel pointed out that fines are only imposed on individuals who do not return materials that have been requested by someone else at the University, and that these fines were raised from \$1/day to \$10/day as a greater incentive for folks to return recalled items; the return rate for recalled items has improved significantly as a result. It was also pointed out that the increase in fine rates had been discussed and approved by the Council and also by the University Senate Steering Committee.

There was also concern that library notices were not being received. Discussion revealed that the notices may not be received because they are going to the individual's University name.N account, and many of the members of the Math Faculty haven't activated their University account and are using a departmental e-mail system. One of those present indicated that he has mail sent to his name.N account automatically forwarded to his departmental account and routinely receives any library notices that are sent. It was suggested that others should take the same approach.

One of the petitioners indicated that, after accruing a sizeable fine because he had been out of town when the recall notice had been sent, he spoke to a library employee who told him he had no recourse but to pay the fine. Libraries' personnel who were present

indicated that although front line personnel are not authorized to waive fines, the Libraries' policy is that fines can be waived by appropriate administrative personnel when a patron provides a valid excuse for not returning the item(s) when recalled. The purpose of the fines is to have the items returned for the use of other individuals who need them, not to make money. A motion was made and seconded that the Council encourage the Libraries to make sure that Libraries' personnel be fully aware of existing policies and procedures relating to fines for recalled items.

3. Budget Requests--Ilee Rhimes discussed the five Service Improvement Requests that had been submitted by the Office of the Chief Information Officer:

1. Unfunded PeopleSoft Ongoing Support
2. Learning Environment Improvements
3. CyberSecurity Improvements
4. Enterprise Business Continuity Program
5. Digital Union Support

Joe Branin discussed the six Service Improvement Requests that had been submitted by University Libraries:

1. Responding to growth and changes in scholarly communication and publication
2. Public Services/Subject Specialist Librarians to Support Teaching and Research
3. Assistant Director for E-learning Support (joint request with CIO)
4. Create a Learning Commons in the Science & Engineering Library
5. Digital Imaging
6. Training, Development and Diversity

4. The next meeting (and the last for this academic year) will be on Friday; May 5 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. in 090 Science & Engineering Library.