

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2005
9:00 AM—10:30 AM
Daley Library 1-294

Present: Mary Case (chair), John Cullars (secretary), Joan Fiscella, Helen Georgas, Ann Weller, Steve Wiberley, Lisa Zhao.

I. Finalize agenda

Georgas requested on behalf of Krystal Lewis, chair of Nominations & Elections, that an agenda item be added to discuss questions relating to the upcoming senate and library faculty elections. This was added as C. under New Business. Fiscella also asked if there are faculty issues in the library's budget planning process. Case said that she would address that matter under the UL's Report.

II. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2005 Meeting

The Minutes were approved as amended.

III. Old Business

A. Update on Nakata Lecture: Case announced that Provost Michael Tanner has agreed to present the 2005 Nakata Lecture. There may be a couple of respondents as well. Lectures & Forums and the Senate Library Committee will be involved in the planning and publicity. There will be no separate seminar in conjunction with the Nakata Lecture this year. Case will invite the new U of I President, B. Joseph White.

B. Proposal for multi-year clinical appointments follow-up: Weller provided some background to this proposal, which was proposed a number of years ago. There did not appear to be strong concerns among the senators that this proposal would undermine tenure. There was some concern from faculty in the College of Medicine that the proposal might not address the needs of all of the many types of clinical appointments within the College. EC agreed to monitor the progress of this proposal but did not feel that any official library faculty response was appropriate at this point.

C: Mentoring follow-up: Cullars had previously circulated a draft document of guidelines that he had put together based on the discussions within the Task Force (TF). Since the TF has not yet met to discuss the draft, he was not ready to go forward with it. EC recommended that it be made explicit that clinical faculty is included and that the mentoring process will go through the entire review process. EC recommends that the TF make explicit the position of clinical

faculty as mentors and mentees. The TF will design a website to be mounted on the restricted faculty pages. At some point, EC will sponsor an evaluation of the mentoring program but not necessarily by the TF.

D. Schedule spring faculty meeting: Case said that she would ask Canlas to schedule the faculty meeting for the last week of March and not during Spring Break. [It was subsequently set for March 30, 2005 from 11:30 AM—1:00 PM in 713 Student Union East.]

IV. New Business

A. Graduate College Interdisciplinary seminars: Wiberley discussed the memo from Clark Hulse, Dean of the Graduate College, about interdisciplinary graduate seminars. Hurd, Jones, Weller, and Wiberley are currently members of the Graduate College. The annual report of the graduate college dean suggests that faculty from other units join the graduate college faculty shortly after their initial appointments at UIC. This has not happened with library faculty. Weller suggested that a task force be set up to investigate both issues concerning librarian membership in the Graduate College and potential collaboration of library faculty in interdisciplinary seminars. Wiberley volunteered to forward relevant messages from the Graduate College to the library faculty.

B. Formation of Scholarly Communications Committee: EC discussed issues relating to the formation of such a body. Should it be an elected faculty committee, a faculty task force appointed by the EC, or an administratively appointed committee appointed by the UL? If it is a faculty committee, may Academic Professionals serve on it? Should it be a broader campus committee with campus representation from outside the library, such as the Archives Advisory Committee? Weller, the chair of the Institutional Repository Task Force, pointed out that IRTF will recommend the creation of a campus committee. If it is a campus committee, can the library “own” and direct it? EC is leaning toward a task force, and Case will propose a charge, including the creation of a website, and members at the March EC meeting.

C. Library Election Issues: Nominations & Elections Committee chair Krystal Lewis asked Georgas to bring some of the Committee’s concerns to EC’s attention since it is nearly time for mailings to the library faculty to begin. When Lewis met with EC, that committee recommended that she confer with Ellen Starkman on the feasibility of conducting elections electronically. We can do so, if no provisions in the Bylaws explicitly conflict with electronic voting. EC does not view the Bylaws wording “distribution of ballots” as prohibiting online distribution. Signed petitions to run for secretary or for a given committee would have to remain print documents, but that does not affect the voting process. The only issues that EC identified were the following: is it possible to maintain confidentiality and to ensure that each faculty member votes only once? Georgas will instruct Lewis to confer with Starkman on these concerns. If they can be successfully met, EC recommends online voting.

V. University Librarian's Report

Addressing Fiscella's question about the faculty implications of the budgeting process, Case reported that the library will be using \$500,000 of its \$1.9 million reserves to get through the fiscal year to cover funds that had to be returned to the campus, salary increases and to fill vacant faculty and civil service positions. We are not expecting additional new funds for next fiscal year's budget; if there is a flat budget, we will use another \$500,000 from the Reserves plus an additional \$500,000 over 18 months for computers and facilities, leaving \$400,000 in the Reserves. The State of Illinois does not recommend having more than \$600,000 in Reserves. The library may receive extra ICR money, but it might all be earmarked for collections. The library is dependent on State funding for 92% of its revenues.

Case adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted by

John M. Cullars
Faculty Secretary
February 23, 2005;
Approved March 7, 2005