

Steering Committee

Minutes of the meeting: May 11, 2005

Present: D. Bicknese, M. Case, J. Canlas (recorder), R. Daugherty, J. Dorsch, A. Ford, E. Guss, J. Hurd, S. Jacobson, W. Jones, J. Lambrecht (convener, timekeeper), F. Logan, R. Malinowsky, L. Naru, V. Pifalo (via teleconference), E. Schellhause, C. Scherrer, J. Shuler, E. Starkman, A. Weller

Meeting called to order at 9 a.m. by Lambrecht.

1) Minutes for 4/20/05 meeting approved. Canlas to send approved minutes to ULIB for posting.

2) Library support for library school attendees

Review: Case outlined Library's previous support mechanism for staff attending library school at UIUC: travel and lodging expenses, release time. In return, graduates committed to two years working at UIC Library in professional capacity. Committee to consider reevaluation of program based on current budget constraints and priorities.

Discussion: Committee discussed past retention of library school graduates, the program's value to the Library's reputation and staffing, the Library's interest in encouraging underrepresented populations to pursue librarianship, and different configurations of the program's three aspects: financial support, flex/release time and post-graduate professional commitment. Committee also discussed current policy for staff pursuing education outside of library profession.

Advice: Staff attending library school should be eligible for flex-time and release time. Committee members were divided as to whether it should be for all or part of the time. Upon graduation, staff not obligated to professional commitment at UIC. Staff members enrolled in non-library-science programs will continue to be allowed flex-time at supervisor's discretion.

3) Support Staff Task Forces

Introduction: As a result of individual meetings with staff members, Case prioritized the development of a support staff task force to address concerns. With a large number of staff volunteers, Case proposed that the group be divided into three separate task forces: staff development, community-building and employee recognition. Chairs appointed for each group would comprise a small support-staff coordinating council.

Employee Recognition: Committee briefly reviewed Employee of the Month program and discussed need for reevaluation, particularly the awardee selection process and the reward system, while maintaining current budget.

Chairs: Case asked Committee members to e-mail suggestions for task-force chairs and co-chairs from the distributed list of volunteers.

4) Tasks and Ground Rules for Councils and Steering: Lambrecht announced that items set aside for further discussion from the council function-claim list (presented at 4/20/05 meeting) have since been assigned after a meeting between senior staff and two Council chairs. Committee discussed the role of the Systems liaison as an integral member of each Council. Lambrecht stated that, armed with charges, chairs and ground rules, Councils are ready to proceed with their duties.

5) Quarterly reports from Councils and Steering Task Forces: Lambrecht brought attention to the proposed list of dates (included on agenda) on which groups would present reports to Committee.

6) University of Illinois Strategic Planning Effort: Case referenced documents e-mailed to Committee, reviewing deadlines for campus and college plans. Committee to expect strategic planning retreat in early September to examine TV2010 report and craft goals. Departments should consider outlining goals through fall.