STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Aug. 15, 2007


Minutes: Strategic plan notes from Aug. 1 meeting approved as minutes.

Web Oversight Committee
Kayiwa presented an on-screen demonstration of new sample Web site using WebGUI content management system. Proposed structure, based on evaluation of current site and usability study, would be more “globally aware,” not organized by geographic location or department, but rather by function or service, e.g., renewing books. Kayiwa showed Committee how data would be entered by staff and how information would be displayed in response to patron inquiry. He also explained that, in special cases, some static pages would remain on the Library Web site, outside the CMS. Committee briefly discussed difference between static pages and CMS, leading into the topic of local control and localized pages. Site librarians expressed concern about providing a local gateway for their constituencies. WOC recommended that representatives from each Council participate in WOC meetings to assist in maintaining focus on user needs. Logan questioned the necessity of a Webmaster for design expertise. Dorsch recommended WOC and Committee visit new College of Medicine site, which employs CMS and global approach while maintaining regionalized gateways. Lambrecht noted end-of-year timetable for implementation of new site. Kayiwa invited further input from Committee.

Digitization
Hepburn summarized recent accomplishments: digitization of more than 100 composite photos of College of Medicine graduating classes, the establishment of template for entering image collection metadata, plans to purchase photo equipment designed to accommodate oversized images. He then offered the Committee a view of a sample entry on the Internet Archives interface, which features 93 digitized UIC items, made possible through an arrangement with UIUC. Items (PDFs) will likely be stored on Library server and linked directly through UICCAT. Hepburn noted that UIUC would be amenable to working with UIC again to add more material, then proposed the idea of saving items for Google Books project. Currently digitized items would not need to be re-digitized for inclusion by Google, so could simply be submitted for hosting on common server. Finally, Hepburn showed the Committee a draft version of Web gateway for digital items and offered to forward URLs for Committee to further investigate the Library’s digitization achievements thus far.

CIC/Google
Lambrecht summarized a recent, two-day CIC/Google meeting at Northwestern University attended by himself, Daugherty, Logan, Fiscella and Hepburn. Topics
included a detailed account of the classified mechanisms behind the Google project, as well as questions about first steps on CIC’s part. Schuitema reported that CIC was working on this. Lambrecht explained that Library would need to develop its own standards for materials to be submitted, taking into account Google requirements, e.g., barcoding, bound items only. Case explained that CIC directors constituting board for shared repository would occur in early September. Committee briefly discussed digitization via UIUC vs. Google, touching on cost and logistics. Schuitema expressed concern for identifying materials in a timely fashion so as not to delay current workload. Committee decided to appoint an internal point person for project.