

LMAC Meeting, March 5, 2004

Attending: Bill Barry, Prairie Cutting, Peggy Firman, Karen Fischer, Peter Greenfield (chair), Zaixin Hong, Norman Imamshah, Kent Hooper, Michael Nanfито, Geoff Proehl

Announcements: Norm Imamshah noted confusion regarding changes in the extensions for email addresses: the part after the “@” sign. These used to be name@mail.ups.edu, but for some time have been name@ups.edu. Until recently, mail addressed with the old extension would still be received by UPS clients, but the university now blocks this old extension because the anti-virus gateway was letting mail with that extension onto campus without first checking it. It is important, therefore, that individuals be sure that any email sent to them from listservs or individuals use new extension. Imamshah noted that another email would go out to faculty explaining this change.

Michael Nanfито announced that between the spring and summer session OIS will be upgrading the version of Blackboard being used on campus. The changeover is complicated enough to make it necessary to take Blackboard offline for a couple of days.

Kent Hooper asked, relative to these announcements, if there was anything that might be done to decrease the amount of spam received. Norm noted that the university belonged to a consortium that provided a list of known spammers for blocking and that individuals could use filters built into Eudora to block spam. Other methods for blocking spam have been explored (e.g. – blocking key words) but they often provide unintended results.

Bill Barry noted a call that went out to chairs to request electronic classrooms. Requests have come in and from them three will be chosen for future installation.

After announcements, the committee moved to part two of a discussion of changes in the library’s binding policy for periodicals. Part one had been an initial report on the issue in the fall of 2003. This presentation was made by Peggy Firman with additional information from Karen Fischer.

In brief, the library has been binding virtually all periodicals. Increasing access to digital or online versions of journals and cost pressures on the library’s operations budget has lead the library staff to question the efficacy of this policy. As a trial measure, the library will — instead of automatically binding all periodicals — experiment with singling out a small group of periodicals that most need to be bound, because of the their usage or material: criteria for binding will be “methods of use; potential wear and tear; cost and availability of replacement.” They will evaluate the effectiveness of this policy in a year, noting missing or lost issues, damaged issues, cover damage, and excess wrinkling or other wear. Two benefits of this policy: periodicals will be easier to use and they will never leave the library. The project goal is to “bring the cost of binding down to 10% of operating costs immediately, then evaluate the consequences and continued viability [of this change] for the long range health of materials and future functioning of the library.”

Various advantages and disadvantages of this change were discussed: How much money will be saved? Perhaps 13 to 16 thousand, although the exact amount is unknown. Savings will be used in part to support increased printing in the Information Commons. Periodicals will be easier to copy in an unbound state and will never leave the library. Periodicals in “Princeton Binders” (essentially, open boxes) will, however, be much less likely to stay in chronological order.

Ultimately Peter Greenfield, committee chair, noted a general atmosphere of approval for this experiment.

Before adjournment there were two final announcements.

Karen Fisher announced that the library would be conducting a web-based survey of its services called LibQual from March 22 to April 15. Fischer asked committee members to encourage students to participate.

Michael Nanifito noted a potential initiative between Puget Sound and the Washington State Historical Society to develop online resources on local and Native American history. Puget Sound staff would primarily serve as technical consultants.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 26.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoff Proehl, Theatre Arts