**Final Report of the Actions of the Library, Media and Academic Computing Committee
September, 1996-May, 1997**

This year the duties of the Library, Media and Academic Computing Committee (henceforth known as LMAC) were primarily advisory. During the course of the year we discussed
-allocation of funds for departmental purchases of books
-space planning for the Library after the Humanities building is completed
-training of faculty and staff in use of computers.

We approved the Library Collection Policy Statement.

We recommended that the Office of Information Services have staff available (a "help desk") for helping faculty and staff with computer problems as the need arises (one of the outcomes of our discussion of training issues). We wrote a letter supporting the budget request of the Office of Information Services to fund this service.

We also considered the appropriate role of the Committee in response to the Senate's request. The majority of the members of the Committee favored the continued existence of LMAC as a standing faculty committee. The Committee's areas of oversight are ones that have a significant impact on our ability to function as teachers and as scholars. However, LMAC differs from a number of faculty committees in that it rarely has the power to create new policy in either library or computing areas. It is that difference from other standing faculty committees that seems to be what led both Committee members and senators to consider the dissolution of the Committee. When we identified that issue, we considered ways in which the Committee could function more effectively. We would like to make two suggestions to the Senate based on that discussion.

First, we do not think that this Committee has to meet on a frequent basis. Instead, we suggest that members of the Committee could serve as liaisons to different campus groups that make policy affecting either the Library or Academic Computing. The liaisons would then meet as a group once or twice a semester to discuss general issues or get additional views on a topic raised in one area.

Second, we would like to remind the Senate and the faculty as a whole that all standing faculty committees and LMAC in particular exist as a place for faculty members to bring concerns. A Committee may have little work during a period in which faculty are relatively satisfied with the policies in a particular area. That does not mean the Committee should be abandoned during that time. Conditions may change and the Committee may once again be needed to develop new policy in response to new problems. We exist to deal with problems that faculty have with library or computing issues and we encourage any faculty members to forward issues to the Committee.

For the next year's agenda we suggest :
1. that the Committee develop and implement the plan to act as liaisons with library and computing groups, and
2. that the Committee continue to serve as an advocate for adequate funding of the library and academic computing.

Respectfully submitted,

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