

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents

From: Board Office

Subject: Annual Report of the Interinstitutional Library Committee and the Interinstitutional Task Force on Scholarly Communication

Date: October 7, 2002

Recommended Actions:

1. Receive the report.
2. Encourage the Regent university libraries to continue their collaborative activities, and where feasible, extend such efforts.

Executive Summary:

The Interinstitutional Library Committee requests approval of its FY 2002 Annual Report. The annual report also contains a report from the Interinstitutional Task Force on Scholarly Communication (ITFSC), established three years ago by the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC).

The other major sections of the report include cooperative interinstitutional library programs and individual institution reports.

Link to Strategic Plan:

There are no objectives, strategies, or action steps in the Board's Strategic Plan that refer directly to the libraries at the Regent universities. However, Key Result Area 1.0.0.0 (Quality) assumes that effective educational institutions need strong libraries. Furthermore, Strategy 1.1.4.0 (Strengthen research, creative work, and service by the Regent universities) and Action Step 4.4.2.3 (Explore opportunities for partnership among the Regent institutions and with other sectors of education) provide the basis for the collaborative efforts being undertaken by the Regent universities.

As noted below, each of the university strategic plans refers to the role of the library:

University of Iowa Strategic Plan

The University of Iowa's strategic plan emphasizes an intellectually fulfilling undergraduate experience, distinguished research, artistic creation, and enhanced patient care. The University Libraries provide an essential infrastructure that makes these goals attainable.

Iowa State
University Strategic
Plan

ISU's strategic plan states that library resources and services sustain and enhance learning and discovery. The advancement of the electronic library's resources and services represents a measure for advancing information science and technology.

University of
Northern Iowa
Strategic Plan

UNI's Rod Library supports University Goals 1 through 3 by providing equitable access to information resources supporting study and scholarship needs of UNI students, faculty, staff, and the community.

Background:

The report includes examples of collaborative institutional activities and local initiatives to bridge the physical and virtual libraries.

Analysis:

Interinstitutional Task Force on Scholarly Communication (ITFSC)

Task Force Charge
and Membership

When the ICEC appointed the ITFSC in 1999, its charge was "to explore ways that the libraries of the three universities can more effectively use professional journals, in light of escalating costs and such developments as electronic publication." The Task Force includes representatives of the faculty senates of each university, personnel from the libraries, and a Board Office liaison.

Scholarly
Communication
Activities

During FY 2002, the ITFSC submitted a proposal for a Board of Regents policy encouraging faculty members to retain copyright for their published works.

Policy Statement

"The Board strongly encourages faculty, students, and employees of Regent institutions to seek to retain intellectual property rights to the articles and reports that they publish in scholarly journals and equivalent types of publications where feasible and appropriate without detriment to publishing agreements. Doing so on a systematic basis will ensure the widest possible dissemination at the lowest cost. Each institution is responsible for providing information, advice, and assistance to faculty, students, and employees to achieve this aim."

Board Approval

The policy was approved by the Board of Regents in May 2002 and will be integrated into the revised Policy Manual.

- Remaining Issues for ITFSC
- The ITFSC has three remaining issues to address:
- Implementation of the copyright policy;
 - Role of scholarly communication issues in faculty evaluation, promotion, and tenure; and
 - Potential role of digital institutional repositories in addressing scholarly communication issues.
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Interinstitutional Library Committee (ILC)

Membership

The ILC includes the deans of the three Regent university libraries. The ILC appointed a Reference and Instructional Service Task Force to oversee interinstitutional programs related to electronic reference and instructional services that are of value to all three libraries.

- Primary Issues for FY 2002
- There were three primary issues during FY 2002:
- State budget situation and its impact on the library collections and services of the three universities;
 - State Library's budget reductions and their potential impact on the *Access Plus* program; and
 - Proposed cooperative database of images, text, and other resources related to Iowa heritage.
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Impact of Budget Reductions

For the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa, there were permanent reductions for the libraries in FY 2002; Iowa State University supplemented its reduction in FY 2002 with central funds, leaving the full permanent cut for FY 2003.

- University of Iowa
- Most of the 12 libraries will be open fewer hours.
 - There will be limited reference assistance, especially in the Main Library; e.g., no librarians will be available in Government Publications during evening hours.
 - Approximately 33% fewer books and serials will be sent to the bindery. This deferred maintenance on the collections will likely cost more in the future.
 - There will be slower maintenance of computer equipment, including the 650 computers for staff or public use in the libraries.
 - There will be curtailment or postponement of many digital initiatives. The University of Iowa Libraries have fallen behind their peer institutions in the development of digital collections. Many planned projects have been postponed this year.
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Iowa State
University

The primary emphasis of the reduction was on the journal side of the budget and targeted duplicated journal copies, especially those titles where both an electronic and a print version have been purchased. While these cancellations will not affect immediate access to any unique title, the impact of using these savings for budget reduction eliminates the library's future flexibility to use these types of savings to offset inflation and to purchase new journals and books, particularly those that would support new academic programmatic areas and interdisciplinary research.

The loss of nine faculty positions during the past three fiscal years jeopardizes the Library's ability to advance initiatives related to the e-Library collections and services, enhancement of undergraduate instructional programs, and support for key new university research initiatives. The loss of faculty positions is also affecting the Library's ranking as a research library.

In order to address some of these issues, the Library has been allocated new funds for the purchase of *Web of Knowledge*, an important portal research initiative; and for the creation of critical faculty positions.

University of
Northern Iowa

- There will be limited staffing, e.g., the Art and Music Collection will be staffed fewer hours, limiting access to the materials in that collection; the Library Information Technology Department has less capacity to respond to computer maintenance for staff and public computers and other technology needs.
 - There will be slower upgrading and replacement of computing equipment for staff.
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Funding for *Access
Plus*

Access Plus is the program that reimburses the lending libraries for materials provided without charge to other Iowa libraries. All three Regent universities benefit from this program. Although the State Library experienced a 25% budget cut in FY 2002, the funds for *Access Plus* were available last year and will continue in FY 2003.

Collaborative Iowa
Database

In collaboration with the State Librarian and the Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, a survey of the libraries and museums in the state was conducted by the University of Iowa Libraries to determine whether there was sufficient interest in developing an Iowa database, what Iowa collections had already been digitized, and what collections might be the most valuable to have available electronically. The results of the study revealed that there is widespread interest and support for such a database, that there are many pertinent collections available in the libraries and museums in the state, but that very little has already been digitized.

Representatives from each of five institutions (University of Iowa, Iowa State University, University of Northern Iowa, State Library, and State Historical Society) as well as members from key libraries and museums in the state, decided to design a modest pilot database that would demonstrate the potential capacities, would generate interest in this project, and could help secure additional private or other funding beyond the pilot. The group felt that a demonstration project could be designed with existing resources. The University of Iowa offered its CONTENTdm software, used for digitization projects, for the demonstration project. The State Library of Iowa eventually will serve as the organizing agency for the project, which should be available by Spring 2003. This collaborative initiative will likely continue to be a major priority for the ILC during the coming year.

Cooperative Interinstitutional Library Programs

Interinstitutional
Collection
Management
Council

The Interinstitutional Collection Management Council sustained its focus on joint initiatives related to current circumstances in scholarly publishing, including coordinated collection building and the initiation of consortial purchases of electronic resources. The Council engaged in the following activities:

- Continued cooperative licensing of remote electronic resources. The Council entered into negotiations to transfer its license to Elsevier's *E-Choice*. This process, when completed, will ensure that the three Regent university libraries have electronic access to nearly all of the more than 1,200 periodicals Elsevier makes available, at a combined cost lower than that of *ScienceDirect*.
- Continued opportunities to participate in larger consortial initiatives entered into by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) and Greater Western Libraries Alliance; these made *Britannica Online*, *Kluwer Online*, and the *ACM Digital Library* accessible and affordable to the Regent libraries.
- Expanded the libraries' commitment to netLibrary e-books. ISU purchased 583 additional titles that are accessible to all three institutions.

- Investigated possible participation in the AEAs/State Library licensing of EBSCOHost databases.
- Participated with the Iowa Library Association/Association of College and Research Libraries Ad Hoc Databases Committee, which developed a list of electronic resources owned and licensed by Iowa academic institutions for use as a foundation for future joint initiatives.
- Participated in the Survey of Cooperative Collection Development Projects conducted by the Center for Research Libraries Working Group to map cooperative collection development projects.
- Discussed possible cooperative initiatives in the area of digitization and digital imaging.

The three Regent libraries made available materials withdrawn from their respective collections, including microform titles withdrawn by ISU, index/abstract runs withdrawn by UNI, and duplicate titles from the former “undergraduate” collection at SUI. The Interinstitutional Collection Management Council’s web page was updated and will be migrated to a server at UNI.

Cooperative
Reference and
Instruction Task
Force

This newly reconvened task force has focused on establishing a virtual reference service for the three Regent universities. The task force was also interested in a project that would allow the three libraries to share and exchange reference queries easily.

After reviewing a number of products, the task force decided that while it might not be feasible for each of the Regent libraries to purchase the same product based on the specific needs of their respective constituents, the individual libraries will plan to purchase one or more products as a trial for one year, share their experiences with each other, and revisit the feasibility of a cooperative effort at a later date. It would appear that an advantage of an interinstitutional purchase would be in the area of training.

Interlibrary Loans

Since 1992, an Interlibrary Loan Working Group has been active in expediting exchanges of library materials. Books, microfilm, and other “returnables” are sent via 2-day commercial shipper. Most copies are sent via *Ariel*, the text digitizing software of the Research Libraries Group (RLG). With this technology, articles are scanned, compressed, and sent via the Internet.

There were 7,074 requests in FY 2002 compared with 8,005 requests in FY 2001. This 12% decrease may be a result of the increased access to electronic journals available through other collaborative contracts with vendors negotiated during the year.

With the exception of the University of Iowa Law Library, all Regent libraries participate in the State Library of Iowa's *AccessPlus* program. The purpose of the program is to provide Iowa citizens with equal access to library resources by supporting no-charge resource sharing activities among academic, public, and government libraries. Iowa libraries participating in *AccessPlus* are reimbursed by the Iowa State Library for supplying interlibrary loan materials at no charge. Interlibrary loan activity between Regent libraries is not subsidized through the program. The Regent libraries serve as the "last resort" in the state after all other Iowa libraries have been contacted.

Preservation

Preservation of the library collection assures access to information at the time needed and in a useable format. There is an expanding array of preservation treatments and strategies used in academic research libraries, but binding is the primary preservation activity.

The Regent libraries continue their contract with Heckman Bindery, Inc., of Indiana. Collectively, the Regent university libraries, including the SUI Law Library, had 62,345 items bound in FY 2002 at a cost of \$398,445.

The preservation staff at the SUI and ISU Libraries received training to use digital reproduction for content preservation of fragile collections.

Individual Institution Reports

Each of the University reports describes activities undertaken in FY 2002 under the categories of Collections and Services, Information Technology, Human Resources, Outreach, Consortial Activities, and Physical Facilities. The individual reports describe local initiatives to bridge the physical and virtual libraries. Examples from the reports are provided below.

Collections and Services

University of Iowa:

- The Libraries received a grant for \$194,922 to acquire electronic resources in the sciences, especially electronic backfiles of journals and indexes for which the Libraries already have current subscriptions.
- Information Commons Production Services recently completed new web sites for the College of Nursing and the Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence.
- The Libraries concluded an agreement brokered by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) allowing electronic access to nearly all journals published by Wolters Kluwer, representing approximately 700 journals primarily in the sciences and social sciences.
- The Libraries have recently acquired a number of electronic resources, including *New York Time – Proquest Historical Newspapers*, *Black Drama*, *Science*, and *Cell*.

Iowa State University:

- The library video collection grew considerably with the integration of more than 7,000 titles formerly located in the Instructional Technology Center.
- The library expanded pilot projects in Interlibrary Loan to deliver PDF files instead of photocopied journal articles, thereby improving response time and reducing the costs associated with printing and mailing.
- Fifty-one university courses participated in the Instruction Commons¹ (formerly Undergraduate Commons), which seeks to encourage teacher/librarian partnerships and to integrate electronic information resources into teaching and learning activities across the curriculum.

University of Northern Iowa:

- Increasing faculty and student access to electronic resources continued to be a priority for Rod Library. Some of the new electronic resources included Association for Computing Machinery Digital Library (licensed through ISU's participation in Greater Western Libraries Alliance license); Britannica Online (licensed through SU's participation in a CIC license); and WorldCat (available for UNI faculty only).
- A comprehensive serials review and journal cancellation project was conducted in Spring 2002. The review resulted in reduced commitments to print subscriptions by \$128,600. There were approximately 430 journal titles canceled. Many of those cancelled remain available electronically.

Information
Technology

University of Iowa:

- Library staff implemented an upgrade to the *InfoHawk* library system; with this version, the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean collections now can be displayed with native language characters.
- Using Student Consulting Fee funds (\$145,500), the computers in the Information Commons were replaced.

Iowa State University:

- ISU is one of seven major U.S. research libraries to collaborate in the development of the ARL Scholars Portal, which is designed to provide an umbrella search capability across the online catalog and major electronic collections of each library participant or those of all participant libraries. The pilot is scheduled for implementation in FY 2003.

¹ In March 2002, the Commons was one of a few U.S. information literacy initiatives showcased at the First International Conference on Information Technology and Information Literacy in Scotland.

- Wireless Ethernet access points were installed in a variety of library locations. Each access point transmits and receives radio signals to laptops and PDAs in its immediate area.
- Approximately 2,500 e-journals and 14,000 e-books were added to the e-Library's electronic collection.

University of Northern Iowa:

- Rod Library received \$149,000 in student computer fees during FY 2002. This funding supported several major projects, including new and replacement computers, new electronic resources, new and replacement audio-visual equipment, and new video recordings. The funding also provided a trial project of a virtual chat reference service.
 - The Electronic Resources database was redesigned to improve searching and access to the electronic resources available for use on campus and remotely.
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Human Resources

University of Iowa:

- Nine professional positions were filled during the year.
- Seven and one-half FTE positions and 1.5 FTE merit positions were lost through budget cuts for FY 2003.

Iowa State University:

- The library further reduced its staffing by three faculty positions in FY 2002. The continuing loss of faculty positions has dropped its Association of Research Libraries' ranking for this indicator to 108th out of 113 research libraries. New faculty salary funds have been earmarked to create needed positions in FY 2003.

University of Northern Iowa:

- Staffing needs were addressed either by filling existing vacant positions or by redesigning and combining existing positions to create new positions.
 - The Dean of Library Services position was filled.
 - At the end of the fiscal year, there was 5¼ fewer staff FTE, including the associate dean position.
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Outreach

University of Iowa:

- The University Libraries provided three public exhibitions in the Main Library exhibition lobby – *Hypatia's Hidden Heritage: Women in Science*; *Cheating the Wind: Streamliners on the Rails*; and *A More Varied Union: Diversity in American Society*.

Iowa State University:

- The Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Archives received a grant to conduct an oral history project of women who have devoted their careers to the study of chemistry in the post-World War II era. WISE will also provide K-12 and professional outreach in collaboration with national chemistry organizations and national academic programs for women.

University of Northern Iowa:

- Two librarians from the Klagenfurt University Library visited in Spring 2002.
 - The Library was invited to participate in an exchange with Herzen State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia. In May 2002, two staff members traveled to St. Petersburg to present workshops to librarians in St. Petersburg.
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Consortial
Activities

University of Iowa:

- The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), in partnership with the Association of Research Libraries, hosted the 3rd national conference on diversity issues in academic libraries.
- The University of Iowa Libraries, along with eight other CIC member libraries, contributed to the creation of a major digital collection of 19th Century American fiction. There are currently 2,340 texts included by 1,128 authors.
- An E-Publishing Venture Task Force was established within the CIC consisting of library and press directors. The task force is building a test version of a collaborative e-publishing program, concentrating initially on scholarly monographs published by participating CIC university presses.

Iowa State University:

- The library belongs to the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA), a consortium of 30 research libraries. The alliance focused its primary agenda on scholarly communication, in particular, laying the foundation for a major information resource, "Western Waters Digital Library," and arranging for several financially advantageous licensing agreements.

University of Northern Iowa:

- The Cedar Valley Library Consortium allows sharing of the same integrated online library system. Rod Library staff provide technical support for the Consortium, and the database is housed on a Rod Library server.
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Physical Facilities

University of Iowa:

- The new Lichtenberger Engineering Library, which opened in July 2002, contains about 10,000 square feet of renovated space with room for approximately 40,000 volumes.
- Planning is underway for the new Art Library, which will occupy much of the second floor of the new Art and Art History Building.

Trend

There is an obvious trend toward increased use of electronic delivery systems in the libraries. The cooperative efforts of the libraries have resulted in savings.


Diana Gonzalez

Approved: 
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