

Cornell University Library

Library Management Team

Notes from the September 29, 1998 Meeting

Attending: *Ross Atkinson*, Lee Cartmill, Jerry Caswell, David Corson, Pat Court, Tom Hickerson, Janet McCue, Sarah Thomas, Ed Weissman

1) University Issues

Sarah reported on the Academic Deans meeting she attended this morning. Among the issues discussed were:

- Vice President for Human Resources Mary Opperman is investigating the establishment of a "parental leave" policy. The Faculty Senate advocated such a policy for non-tenured faculty and Mary is looking at policies at other universities with the goal of implementing a Cornell policy that cuts across all staff categories.
- Year 2K problems: While CIT is responsible for assuring Year 2K compliance for university-wide systems, individual units are responsible for insuring Year 2K compliance for unit-based systems. Sarah asked Jerry to serve as "point person" on this and to provide appropriate information to library units and departments.

2) Meetings with Sarah

Sarah stated her preference for meeting with us individually on an "as needed" basis rather than on a regular schedule. She requested that we send her a brief agenda in advance when scheduling meetings. She hopes that the flexibility this provides, e.g., to schedule shorter or longer meetings depending on need, will allow all of us to use our time more productively.

3) Budget Reallocation

Lee provided an update on the status of the reallocation process. Several vacant positions have been restructured, photocopy and micrographic prices were increased at the beginning of the semester, and equipment replacement fund needs have decreased thanks to a dramatic drop in the cost of hardware. We discussed the issue of indirect cost recovery and agreed to further analyze the impact on revenue, efficiency, incentive and competitiveness of being more stringent with regard to waiving the 10% "below-the-line" indirect cost charge. We agreed at our next meeting to look specifically at distributing the operating costs of the Library Annex. Lee and David will present several cost distribution scenarios. We'll also look at the budget reallocation ideas we've articulated with regard to potential savings, impact on service, political implications, time frame for implementation, how the idea relates to other trends in delivering information services, and whether it is worth trading off against what we would use the "recovered" funds for, in order to decide which ideas to follow-up on.

Edward Weissman
Assistant to the University Librarian