

College of Agricultural Sciences Library Committee
Report to CAS faculty
9 May 2011

A library committee meeting was held on Monday 9 May to discuss library issues affecting the CAS.

Core Council recommendations

University Libraries were evaluated by Core Council and received 6 recommendations:

1. Media and Technology Support Services – a working group will be convened to consider the future configuration of MTSS and how the University's infrastructure and service for the support of high quality classroom teaching and learning in the digital age can best be achieved.
2. Subject Libraries at University Park – recommend that University Libraries seriously consider consolidating or downsizing the campus libraries. These would be Engineering, Earth and Mineral Sciences, Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and Physical and Mathematical Sciences. This should not affect CAS.
3. Book Acquisition Decisions – be more selective in purchasing materials and encourage greater participation from college and campus faculty.
4. Penn State Press – doing well and is covering a larger share of its full costs relative to most of its peers. The press is committed to scholarly publications but is also looking to sell books to the general public.
5. Enterprise Systems – rationalization and reduction of duplication in enterprise technology systems
6. Potential for an Online Library Degree program. This recommendation is being discouraged.

Ebooks update –

- Currently testing out Patron Driven Access. A collection of ebooks was loaded into the CAT and will automatically be purchased once a book has been accessed 3 times.
- CAS is beginning to develop ebook technology for its extension publications.

Knowledge Commons construction this summer construction will hopefully be completed by 1 November. West Pattee 1st floor will be closed for the summer. Knowledge Commons revamps the library's first floor to be a technology rich environment to aid in student research .

Data Archiving / Data Management Consulting

This trend will greatly affect research in CAS. At present, NSF and NIH require archiving of raw data as a stipulation in the research grant contract. The idea is that data has use beyond the research project that originally generated it, and that others should have access to and be able to mine data from projects paid for by public agencies. Other agencies are sure to follow. Penn State University Libraries has created a toolkit for researchers to use to construct data management plans that satisfy agency requirements. More info and consulting help can be found at the following web sites:

- Research Data Management Services Team -
<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/scholar/datamanagement.html>
- Sci-Tech Newsletter -
<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/content/dam/psu/up/news/documents/sci-techmay2011.pdf>

LionSearch

The Library has created a new search engine to search the Catalogue and other library resources. LionSearch, still in beta mode, will be fully functional for fall semester. The beta version can be viewed at <http://psu.summon.serialssolutions.com/>.

Respectfully submitted

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