

University of Sussex
Library Consultative Group

Notes of the 106th meeting held at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23 February, 2005
in the Library Meeting Room

- Present:** Maggie Fieldhouse (Deputy Librarian), Dr. Peter Campbell (HUMS), Julie Carr (SocCul), Professor Jon Cohen (BSMS), Yael Heffer (LifeSci), Sarah Hinchliffe (SAMS), Roger Hylton (USSU), Emily Manser (HUMS), Barbara Merchant (SPRU), Dr. David Pratten (SocCul), Dr. Robert Ray (LifeSci), Dorothy Sheridan (Library), Deborah Shorley (Librarian, Chair), Josh Siepel (SPRU), Karen Watson (Library)
- Apologies:** Lynn Gibbs (SocCul), Rosemary Rimmer-Clay (Sussex Institute), Ley Robinson, TLDU, Professor Geoffrey Sampson (SciTech), Harriett Sinclair (USSU), Julia Sutherland (Sussex Institute),

799 Notes of the previous meeting

The notes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

800. Chair's communications

The Librarian reported that support units would bear the brunt of cuts resulting from the University's financial problems and the Library would be asked to make savings between £260,000 and £400,000. If the savings required were £260,000, with a combination of voluntary redundancies, the continued freeze of staff vacancies, a new staff structure and, possibly, a very slight reduction in opening hours, it may be possible to protect Library resources (books and periodicals) and services.

Any cuts over £260,000 would impact on resources. The Library strategy is to be as electronic as possible. However, saving by purchase of electronic versions of journals only is not often possible because most publishers only offer subscriptions which include printed versions as well as electronic. In terms of the split between books and periodicals, the formula allocation would again be decided by Senior Management Group.

Funds from the Lewes flood insurance settlement (the Library Innovation Fund), which were being used for electronic developments, were blocked and the Library would have to concentrate on its core service provision. Projects which had been curtailed included the Library portal, Institutional repository, Learning City.

801. Inter-Library Requests

Following the discussion at the previous meeting in November, the Group discussed a paper outlining revised ILR procedures to protect departmental budgets and achieve savings required of the Library.

Points raised:

- The proposed limit of 2 concurrent ILR requests for undergraduates would disadvantage 3rd years (especially in Psychology) with deadlines to meet.
- The Library could identify use/requests for particular journals with a view to adding them to stock.
- Undergraduates should not need access to too many ILRs. Tutors should become involved and key articles placed in the ResFac Collection.
- A disappointingly large number of ILRs were never collected.

- 3rd year undergraduates could be treated differently to other undergraduates. The Library should identify them, create a different borrower category for them and get authorisation from teaching faculty.

Recommended:

- The Library should compromise and allow 3 rather than 2 loans per undergraduate student next academic year and investigate why Psychology students made more demands on ILR than others.
- The Library should collect data to identify most requested items for the next meeting.
- Deans should be kept informed of changes in ILR policy

802. The University of Sussex Art Collection

Dorothy Sheridan introduced her paper on the University's Art Collection, which comprises gifts, purchases and specially commissioned pieces with an emphasis on work of the 1960s when the University was founded. The collection was amalgamated with Special Collections in the Library in the late 1990s which Simon Lane (now Image Archivist in Art History) was employed to produce a comprehensive database of art owned by the University.

Karen Watson gave a presentation on the project and her work to move the collection to a new environmentally controlled store in the Library.

She reported that art works from the store were available for loan on application to Special Collections. Special Collections should also be informed of any new art works loaned or donated to the University for inclusion in the database. Any concerns about insurance matters should be referred to the University Insurance Officer.

802. Any other business

On-line journals were not available from catalogue terminals because these terminals were intended for short term look-ups. The catalogue and e-resources could be accessed remotely. Only members of the University were licensed to access on-line journals.

Agreed that the Library basement toilets are appalling. The Librarian reported that Estates had promised a radical refurbishment this Summer, 2005. Complaints should be referred elsewhere, e.g. to Estates and Student Services.

Likewise, the Bolthole is managed by Catering Services and complaints about its closure should be directed there.