

University of Sussex

Library Consultative Group

The 112th meeting held on Wednesday, 30 May 2007

Notes

Present: Debby Shorley (Chair) (Library) (DCS), Alex Swallow (Arts P/G) (AS), Pat Le Riche (SI) (PR), Ruth Collings (Hums U/G) (RC), Robert Ray (RR) and Stephan Huber (SciTech) (SH)

In attendance: Cath Morgan (Library) (CM), Adrian Hale (Library) (AH), Emma Walton (EW), Barbara Merchant (SPRU) (BM) and Alison Timoney (Library) (AT) (Secretary)

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Richard Follett, Tim Bale, Anjum Memon, Roger Discombe, Piera Morlacchi, Dan Glass and Sophie Priestley.

2. **Notes of the last meeting held on 21 February 2007** were agreed.

3. **Matters arising from last meeting (21 February 2007)**

- AS to check if Library FAQs are available on the USSU website **AS**
- DCS advised of the Library and Information Services on Campus (LISOC) Review carried out by the Library Management Team. Final decision still awaited from the Professional Services Review Board but do not anticipate substantial changes being made as a result of the Review
- Article produced and published in the Badger in respect of issues involved in extended opening hours in the Library
- Chris Keene has been nominated as the Library's Eco Rep

4. **Chair's communications (DCS)**

- Still awaiting advice from the University in respect of the Library's budget settlement but think it is likely that resources will be protected but savings may have to be found elsewhere
- Work to start creating a new area in Special Collections will begin at the end of this session

5. **Library Resources Budget 2007-08 (AH)**

AH introduced paper on a new model for Library Resources budget allocation which was endorsed by the Information Services Committee in February. The paper recommended changes to the management of the Library Resources budget by

- (i) replacing the current formula-based budget with a needs-based library model
- (ii) top-slicing within the Library Resources budget all subscriptions for journals and electronic resources

Two briefing sessions had been held for Departmental Representatives and Heads of Departments as part of the communication strategy for the new policy.

6. Electronic books (EW)

A presentation was given on E-books and how to access them via the Library's website. EW advised that E-books are in addition to, not instead of, print copies.

The main advantages of having E-books are:

- they are accessible at any time
- they are available on or off campus

E-books can be accessed via the Catalogue or Resources web page at <http://ustie1.lib.sussex.ac.uk/TalisPrism/>.

7. Students and the Library (AS)

AS expressed thanks to the Library for the good things they are doing. He wondered how we can best ensure that students get the information they need and how they can best communicate to the Library what they want/need. Also queried how/if students could help to make sure books are on the shelves when required.

DCS expressed thanks for kind words, which were appreciated. Advised that one of the biggest problems in the Library is shelving. CM suggested that as long as students know where the book has come from they could help by putting them back once they have finished with them rather than leaving them lying around the Library.

With regard to communication, DCS stated that as a lot of students look at the USSU website in the first instance it would be very useful to have the FAQs available there.

8. Any other business

AS asked why Postgraduates are still only allowed the same number of short-loan books as Undergraduates. EW advised that short-loan comprises books which are on a reading list and have been bought to support a course. If a particular title is also needed for research a purchase suggestion should be submitted.

9. Date of next meeting (AT)

The date of the next meeting has not yet been agreed. The committee timetable for next session is currently in preparation.

AT
05.06.07