

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS LIBRARY
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE LIBRARY
2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

MEMBERS: Reid Barbour (2007/8-2009/10); Barbara G. Friedman (2007/8-2009/10); Anne MacNeil (2007/8-2009/10); Paul H. Tiesinga (2007/9-2009/10); Philip Vandermeer (2007/8-2009/10); Cheryl Bolick (2008/9-2010/11); Christopher Fecko (2008/9-2010/11); Carmen Hsu (2008/9-2010/11); Terence McIntosh (2008/9-2010/11); Iris B. Carlton-Laney (2009/10-2011-/12); Frank Dominguez (2009/10-2011/12); Megan Matchinske (2009/10-2011/12); Karen O'Brien (2009/10-2011/12); Paul D Stotts, Jr. (2009/10-2011/12)

Health Affairs Representatives: Carol Jenkins and Edward J Halloran

Graduate Student representatives: Elaine Chim

Undergraduate Student representatives: Karen Ann Kuntarich

Ex officio: Sarah Michalak, Associate Provost for Libraries and University Librarian

NUMBER OF ANNUAL MEETINGS: Eight regular meetings

REPORT PREPARED BY: Reid Barbour, Chair

CHARGE:

Shall advise the University Librarian on the administration of the University Library system; formulate, together with the University Librarian, the basic policies governing the acquisition of library materials and the use of such materials; allocate, with the advice of the University Librarian, the book funds that are not specifically designated; submit to the Chancellor, through the University Librarian, its advice on the establishment or discontinuance of library service units outside of the general library building; review the University Librarian's budget request; and report annually to the Faculty Council.

BUDGET

At its meeting in September 2009, the Board reviewed and approved the materials budget, and it advised the library on strategies for minimizing the impact of impending budget cuts. The Board reviewed the requirements for the budget planning document at its January 2010 meeting, in preparation for the library's budget hearing in the spring. The Board will also review budgetary concerns at its March 2010 meeting, and it will hold a discussion of grant writing for the library at its April meeting. As in the past, the library seeks to protect the collections from cuts and requests money for academic growth areas. Collection funding cuts up to 5% can be handled through one-time expenditures and should not require cancellations. The Board continues to be deeply concerned about the library's reliance on annual infusions of onetime materials funding from the office of the Provost, not least because the next Provost has yet to be determined. At its February 2009 meeting, the Board was pleased to meet with then Provost Bernadette Gray-Little, who stated that support for the Library budget will remain one of her top priorities. It plans to share its concerns over the annual gap with acting Provost Bruce Carney at its February 2010 meeting. For the past several years,

UNC Provosts have supported the Library with an infusion of one-time funding to remedy the shortfall. The Board is greatly appreciative of these heroic efforts, but it is also concerned about finding ways to minimize the shortfall, the effects of which could prove disastrous for the Library's continuing excellence. If the state legislature could appropriate a line item, it could avoid the disturbing and potentially harmful annual shortfalls. Greater private endowment is another possibility.

The library is also facing several important retirements, including the Associate University Librarian for Collections and Services as well as the Associate University Librarian for Technical Services and Systems and the Director of Library Personnel. These retirements obviously make budgetary concerns all the more pronounced, as does the simple fact that Davis Library is not getting any younger. On a positive note, the Board's Collections Committee was able to approve all the applications by faculty for big-ticket items, and the library continues inventively to find money to help us purchase major databases of essential importance to the research and teaching mission of the university. But the annual gap in the materials budget can only grow with the Library's commitment to collecting in new areas of curricular interests as well as in the long-standing strengths of scholarship and teaching at UNC.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

One of the Board's most difficult issues this year centered on changes made in the library to the mode of general collection development. Beginning in January 2010, the library has ended its bibliographical model for collection development and replaced it with a liaison structure that assigns specific reference librarians to specific departments. The Board confronted two sets of concerns with this change. First is the concern about whether the new system will accomplish the work of collection development as well as the old, which has been in place since the 1970s. Will the new liaisons have sufficient expertise? Will they have sufficient time to carry out collection development amid all their other duties? Of the other universities that have moved to this model, have the results been satisfactory? What is driving the change? Does it reflect shifting ideas of what a research library should be doing (say, service as against collections)? Is it driven by budgetary concerns? Is its approach to collection too ad hoc and therefore shortsighted? Will the new administrative structure be set up so that pitfalls in the new system are avoided? Is it the case that collection plans (according to which many materials are automatically purchased by the library) make such a move to a more personalized collection structure perfectly viable? Second, the Board was confronted with the question of when and how much it should have been consulted by the library in the making of this change, an issue that has prompted the Board to revisit the cooperative arrangement between it and the library as that arrangement was carefully worked out in the 1970s but also to take note of discontent at other universities among faculty and students who feel that library administrations make too many decisions without consulting those persons who most use and depend on the library. At present, the Board has a subcommittee at work on reviewing this matter and it will hear from this group later this year. But this is the single most important concern of this Board, one that has to do with questions about the future of the research library, and one that

intersects with other major decisions, for instance, about how the ever-decreasing space in Davis should be used, with a premium on services or collections.

The Board is pleased to welcome to UNC the new Curator for Rare Books, Claudia Funke, who comes to UNC from Columbia University. Ms. Funke is a learned, dynamic, and savvy Rare Book librarian who is already making strides to ensure the growth, preservation, and active use of our considerable collection of rare materials.

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS

The Board continues to attend to the latest advances in scholarly communications, open access, and copyright. In January it heard from Emily King, Coordinator of E-Learning Services, and Will Cross, Reserves Copyright Manager, about the activities of the recently formed Scholarly Communications Committee. The committee is focused on legal issues (e.g., fair use, licensing); author's rights; and publication models (e.g., peer review, journal pricing, archiving and access). The Board will also hear from its subcommittee on Scholarly Communications for an annual update later this academic year.

THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

With the prompting of the Committee on University Governance, the Board reviewed both its size and distribution. Decisions with regard to decreasing the Board's size and adjusting its constituents are still pending.