Public Services Advisory Committee
February 23, 2009
G62, Killam Library

Present: Jennifer Adams, Ann Barrett, James Boxall, Geoff Brown, Ian Colford, Marc Comeau, Jane
            Duffy, Bill Maes, Mike Moosberger, Gwyn Pace, Michelle Paon, Helen Powell, Karen Smith

Regrets: Sharon Longard, Fran Nowakowski, Tina Usmiani

1. Surprise

    - Jane introduced Jennifer Bawden and Christina Warren, two of the three individuals who have
      been hired to work on the digitization projects. Laura Zinck, the third member of the team was
      unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.
    - Jennifer and Christina distributed a document entitled "Progress Update Feb 20, 2009" to
      members of PSAC and presented samples of their work electronically.

2. Communications Update

    - deferred as Tina was unable to attend the meeting

3. E-Science update

    - Jane reported that Bill Maes had first sent this information to her, Sharon, Michelle, and Sarah
      Stevenson.
    - E-science has taken on a shape and meaning since 2007
       - new research methodology
       - networked capabilities
       - works with massive amounts of data
       - multi-disciplinary in nature
    - libraries need to be far more engaged in research process, integrating content, tools, data within
      scholarly communication workflows
    - managing print and electronic repositories (DalSpace)
    - potential for creating discovery and management systems for digital data and content
    - providing support for distributed teams but we are pushed in many directions
    - major impact on operations, functions, mission
    - expert understanding of policies/principles relating to open exchange of information; experience
      with developing interoperability tools; experience with long-term archiving; understanding of
      archival aspects of scientific information – Canadian Association of Research Libraries has been
      working on an initiative for the preservation of access of scientific data

    - Bill made some comments on why e-science is important:
       - natural evolution of internet and modern communication
       - move large amounts of data across the country (e.g. CANARIE)
       - have to start thinking outside our box – we can expect library support in future will be
         collaborative

- what can we do in collaboration with other institutions? we can't do it alone
- to what extent should/can we be involved
- where is the rest of the world moving re data collection – where do we participate?
- what form does data come in – not just books any more

See separate document entitled "Model Principles for Research Library Roles in E-Science"

4. Digitization Projects Update

- Once Jennifer, Christina and Laura have completed this year's digitization projects Mike will discuss advertising these collections with Tina.
- Digitization projects for 2009 include:
  - Halifax medical journal bulletin – with matching funds through Doctors of Nova Scotia)
  - Phase 3 of the NSIS project
  - Modern Canadian Architects (oral histories and multi-media) from Sexton
- Mike hopes to re-design/re-structure (thematically based) the digital collections web site. Mike will bring the proposed re-design to the Digital Initiatives Group and then to PSAC for consideration before going "live".
- Mike thanked Marc and his team for their support of the Digitization Team in their use of Joomla and other technical issues.
- Mike reported there is one digital initiative still in the planning stage. Joyline Makani is working with Mike to produce a digital collection to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Red Cross. This work will be done on a contractual basis and continue through the spring and summer.
- Mike advised the Committee that there is a possibility of Federal funding in the next fiscal year for a large collaborative digitization project. A project proposal developed by Mike in 2006 on The History of Atlantic University Sports is one potential project and may be proposed to CAUL through the newly formed Atlantic University Archivists Special Interest Group.
- ASIN digitization group not yet formalized.

5. WorldCat Local Update

- Ann Barrett (who is the Dalhousie rep on the WorldCat Local Novanet Committee) reported that the Committee held its initial meeting for 2009 on February 13th.
- Bill Slauenwhite has set up the test site using St. Mary's as the test model. Ann will distribute the URL to the test site for staff to view and comment on.
- Ann reported that training sessions will be held on Wednesday this week and then Reference staff will be responsible for recommending what needs to be included in our configuration while the Lending Group will be responsible for itemizing every possible status (potentially over 300 statuses).
- Once configurations are completed they will be submitted to OCLC for uploading. OCLC will then send back the URL for WorldCat Local.
- It is hoped this work will be completed in the first few weeks of March with the first configuration available sometime in April.

6. What's new in the Killam Learning Commons?

- deferred

7. Other Business

    - Jane reported that she has received some very good ideas/suggestions for the "Safe Workplace Workshops". She has forwarded this information to Janice MacInnis in Human Resources and information on the workshops will be forthcoming.

Next meeting: March 17th

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm