The Faculty Library Committee convened in Mabee Library, Room 105 at 2:30 p.m. The following members were present: Dr. Bearman, Dr. Berry, Ms. Druse, Dr. Chamberlain, Dr. Diaz Anchant, Dr. Herbig, Dr. Hull, Dr. Hunt, Mr. Kitowski, Dr. LaLonde, Dr. Leung, Dr. Menninger-Corder, Dr. Porta, Dr. Schbley, Dr. Sullivan, and Dr. Thomas. Dr. Reynard, Ms. Weber, Ms. Weiner, and Dr. Wilkinson sent word they would be unable to attend.

Introduction of Committee Members

Dr. Bearman reminded everyone that the general purpose of the Faculty Library Committee is to make recommendations and give advice to the Dean of University Libraries on matters of library management and planning. Committee members liaise between the Library and the various departments and schools (excluding the Law School) and advise the Library in its collection development efforts.

The Library did not receive additional funding for book purchases in FY12. Over the last few years the library has cut the book budget 60%. With an 8% inflationary increase expected again this year for the purchasing of journals and databases there is a potential for more cuts. The library continues to make budget adjustments as it continues moving its purchasing in the direction of electronic formats. The committee is reminded that patience is necessary due to inflationary pressures. With administration and Faculty support the library continues to evaluate and assess library resources in order to balance the needs of the campus with what the library can afford.

Dr. Bearman reports that the increased numbers in library patron usage is staggering. In September, the library gate count broke another record. Because the facility is being used so heavily, investment in the building continues to be a very important factor.

Because of the increase in foot traffic, significant emphasis has been placed on developing flexible spaces within the library to improve the student experience. The Library was allocated funding through the 2012 Capital Improvement Projects to purchase more compact shelving for the lower level. Dr. Bearman reported that the vendor donated the compact shelving and the library paid for labor and installation. With the remaining funds
the library will be able to begin replacing carpet on the lower level during the Winter Break. The remaining compact shelving will be installed in Archives. The library continues to invest in new technology learning tools for faculty checkout: laptops, iPad, iPad2, tablets, camcorders, FLIP, MacBook, and 2 new Androids.

In response to student demand, WSGA submitted a proposal to the Administration in support of extended hours for the library. The proposal requests that the library remain open until 2:00 a.m., Sunday-Thursday. A pilot is being formalized right now to be put into place as soon as possible. This trial will help determine whether or not we should implement this permanently. More information will follow.

This semester the librarians are playing an important role in piloting a new 3-credit hour First Year Experience course, listed as IS 110: The Washburn Experience. Four sections are being offered and open to all students who graduated from high school in spring 2011 and will count as an elective credit. Because of the increased teaching load, the increase in library usage, and the increase in activities and events in the library, Dr. Bearman wants to emphasize the library staff is stretched very thin and asks committee members to be patient with their liaisons during this busy transition time.

Dr. Bearman explained the new Synergy discovery tool that allows users to search the catalog and limit by content type, including articles. Academic One File is the only database loaded right now. Our goal is to have thirty additional databases loaded by January 2012.

Dr. Bearman suggested a change in format at the meetings to allow various library faculty a chance to come and communicate their activities to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.
Respectfully submitted
Ginger D. Webber, Administrative Secretary