Minutes University Library Committee
Date: November 11, 2008
Time: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Location: Library Board Room

Chair: Robert Brown
Members Present: Eileen Hitchingham, Robert Brown, Ruth Grene, Carolyn Meier, Philip Young, Kahil Detrich on behalf of Nakhia Goulbourne, Sonal Mazumder
Guests:

Welcome graduate student representative Sonal Mazumder (Bob Brown)
Sonal Mazumder was introduced and welcomed to the committee. Sonal is a Doctorial Student in Science and Mechanics.

Request to also attend meetings – graduate student Sachi Nekkanti (Bob Brown)
Sachi Nekkanti is a graduate student who will be attending the University Library Committee meetings as a guest. The committee discussed what the protocol should be when non-committee members request to attend the meetings. It was agreed that anyone who requests to attend the meetings would be allowed to do so.

University cutbacks and the Library (Eileen Hitchingham)
Hitchingham provided a handout with comparison information pertaining to spending, staff, and spending for materials for 113 U.S. and Canada members of the Association of Research Libraries and discussed the University cutbacks. The Library is preparing a plan to address what it would do if it is assigned 1.5%, 3%, or 5% cuts in the current plan. Collections and services will be severely affected at any level of cut. Even if the Library receives no cutback in 2008/09 but does not receive an increase in 2009/10, the Library will have to eliminate approximately $400,000 in continuing obligations for serials to meet a flat budget for 09/10. The Library will support $100,000 for the Deans’ initiative areas for 08/09 from gift funds but these dollars can only be for one time, not continuing purchases.

Other (All)
The committee discussed the cutbacks and writing a letter of request to the Provost and President requesting that the library be spared from the budget cuts. A draft of the letter will be ready by the December meeting.