

## **Library Committee**

**2 March 2011 1400 Seminar Room 2, The University Library**

Members present

Ms R Gwyer (Chair)

Prof D Ait-Boudaoud

Dr S Claridge

Miss A Hindson

Ms S Jones

Dr D Loydell

Mr A Minter

Mr M Pearce

Dr P Scott

Dr T Sinha

Dr P Starie

Ms E Wildgoose

Ms A Worden

In attendance

Professor John Turner

### **1. CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP**

The Chair welcomed Dr Kay Peggs as ex-officio representative of the Research degrees Committee in her absence

The Chair welcomed Dr Jonathan Crellin representative of Technology Faculty in his absence

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Dr Kay Peggs, Dr Jonathan Crellin, Dr James Thomas, Dr Fiona Myers and Mr Aakash Naik

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2010 were confirmed as a correct record

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

FOI request by The Times newspaper (Min 7.4).

The Chair reported that the report on Library fines was published in The Times on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Portsmouth was mentioned as an example of the spread of subjects covered by books attracting large fines.

### **5. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no Chair's communications

## 6. BUDGET

The Chair had produced a budget update which was considered alongside an update of the Faculty finds. It was agreed that the benchmarking exercise will be limited to finding data against a £1 benchmark in future, unless there were particular reasons for a more in-depth investigation.

There was a discussion about why spending on books is slow (compared to journals and inter-library loans). One factor is the worries that the 20% allocated after December may not materialise so staff are reluctant to spend. It was agreed that the holding back of 20% would continue for one more financial year and would then be reviewed.

It was observed that the current course alignment process which is taking place over an 18 month period, does not fit in well with the book buying 'season' and the annual budget round. It would, therefore, be beneficial if the underspend could be carried over to next year to support the new units. It was agreed that the Chair would put this on the agenda for discussion a SPG+.

**Action : RG**

There was a discussion of how we encourage more strategic spending across faculties. It was agreed that a meeting be set up between Faculty Librarians, Chairs of Faculty Library Committees and LLOs to consider this and exchange experience. It was suggested that Linda Jones talk about her Reading Strategies project which she is currently undertaking as part of the Leading Change programme as a way to start the conversation

**Action : RG**

Three renewals were considered :

*British Standards Online* – this is now a stand-alone product which has increased in price by 21%. There is limited usage data but cost per use for the last 8 months is £1.67.

It was agreed to renew for a 3year period. Ann Hindson would communicate our strong feelings about this very high price rise to the JISC negotiating committee

*Info4education* – this is now a stand-alone product which has increased in price by 5.7%. There is limited usage data but cost per use for the last 8 months is £2.44. It was agreed to renew for a 3year period.

*Credo* – the current package is offered at an increase of 5.6%. Cost per use is £0.18. There is also a full package offer (all 525 titles for an extra £1,500.

It was agreed to renew but to upgrade to the full package for one year. The extra £1500 to be taken from the bookfunds of each faculty in equal amounts. It was also suggested that we promote this resource more heavily during this period.

**Action AH/AW**

## 7. PUBLICATIONS ALERTING SERVICE

Ms Hindson demonstrated a new service which will allow academics to order new books from their desktop. This is part of a number of developments which will make the order process quicker and more streamlined.

## 8. THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Ms Worden updated the Committee on the pilot re-designation of selected library spaces over exam period. The opening up of seminar rooms for student use had been popular, and will be considered for an extended period in future. The change of zoning was more controversial, but there was a feeling that this would be more fully accepted once it becomes a regular event.

Ms Jones reported that although there were some concerns about noise and security, the 24 hour opening pilot was welcomed by students, in particular the opening of the Postgraduate suite for longer hours. The Chair asked Ms Jones to provide feedback after the pilot

**Action Ms Jones**

The committee was informed of the progress towards more self service terminals, which should be installed around Easter

## 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 8 June 2011, when members will consider the renewal of Westlaw, Business Source Premier and Web of Science