To: Dr. Satish Udpa  
   Dean, College of Engineering

From: Scott Calabrese Barton, Chemical Engineering & Materials Science  
   University Committee for the Library

Date: Monday, September 12, 2011

This is the report of the University Committee for the Library for Academic Year 2010-2011, in accordance with Section 3.2.11 of the Bylaws for Academic Governance of the College of Engineering.

**Background:** I serve as the Engineering College faculty representative to the University Committee for the Library for a two-year term (2010-2011). The committee serves in an advisory-consultative capacity on all policy matters pertaining to the Library, and as a channel of communication between the Library, faculty, and students. The committee consists of one elected faculty member from each college including non-college faculty (two members must be from Faculty Council), two undergraduate students and two graduate students.¹

**Issues discussed:** The University Committee met once in the Fall Semester and once in the Spring Semester. Director of Libraries Cliff Haka took minutes at each meeting. Topics of discussion included Library support for open access journal initiatives, closure of BPS branch library, and internet upgrades. Details, adapted from the minutes, are provided below.

**Meeting of September 30, 2010**

Director of Libraries Cliff Haka discussed the state of the library, with specific discussion of the materials budget, which is steadily increasing thanks to an ongoing commitment from the Provost’s office. The operations budget, in contrast, has remained fixed at roughly half of the overall budget. In the “Library Investment Index” published 8/22/10 in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, MSU ranks 45th out of 114, ahead of Purdue and Indiana in the Big Ten.

The library has established the MSU Article Retrieval Service (MARS) for electronic delivery of scanned documents.² This service provides copies of non-electronic journal articles and individual book chapters that the MSU Libraries own to MSU faculty, staff, and graduate students for personal research. Requests may be submitted online via the Libraries’ ILLiad system.

**Meeting of March 23, 2011**

ASMSU representatives encouraged the Libraries to consider earlier opening on Sundays possibly compensated by later opening on Saturday. Library will review.

---

¹ [http://www.msu.edu/unit/acadgov/committees/advisory/ucl.htm](http://www.msu.edu/unit/acadgov/committees/advisory/ucl.htm)

² [http://www.lib.msu.edu/about/ils/photodup.jsp](http://www.lib.msu.edu/about/ils/photodup.jsp)
Judy Matthews, who serves on the Spartan Bookstore Advisory Committee, sought input regarding faculty and student perspectives regarding the publication of textbook costs associated with courses, and what impact this might be having on enrollments.

A discussion of the utilization of e-textbooks and the possibility of library provision of the same was undertaken. Differing opinions were offered regarding the utility of e-textbooks, while the library anticipates the continuation of the policy not to acquire textbooks, regardless of format.

A concern was expressed regarding situations where a faculty member has their borrowing privileges frozen. This occurs when a faculty member fails to return an item that has been requested, or recalled, by another library user, or when a lost book charge has been invoked. The privileges that are suspended are as follows. The user cannot:

- Check out an MSU book
- Place an ILLiad, MeLCat, or ArticleReachDirect request
- Renew online long-overdue items for which they have been billed for replacement

Varied opinions were expressed regarding the need for an additional grace period, with several members suggesting that the current allowance of two weeks to return a recalled item is sufficient.

The Library anticipates the purchase of an Espresso Book Machine,¹ which is capable of printing and producing bound volumes in a matter of minutes. A variety of applications and uses are anticipated. It is hoped that the machine will be installed and operational this summer.

The proposed Google Book Settlement has been rejected by the court.

¹ http://www.lib.msu.edu/about/ebm/