

Student Library Council
28 September, 2007

Attending:

Nichole Brumley, Elizabeth George, Crystal Kurzen, Matthew Thrasher, Michael Whitworth; Damon Jaggars, Jennifer Kern, Robyn Rosenberg, Clint Chamberlain (recorder)

Notes:

Demonstration of Features in New Catalog:

- Presented by Robyn
- Demonstrated features such as My Account; online renewals, holds, setting up preferred searches, accessing/deleting reading history, new Syndetics content, link to floor maps, placing recalls, requesting titles to be ordered, SFX link

UFCU Student Learning Commons:

- Has been officially opened, but it's not quite finished yet as there are still some lighting and wiring tasks to be completed, as well as placement of artwork
- Work is being done on a policy that will allow official student groups to reserve the space, probably for Friday and/or Saturday evenings when it is not so heavily used

Google Books Project:

- UT partnering with Google to have books scanned and made available online via the Google Books project
- Google processes are confidential, so we don't have much information about how or where it's being done, but books are being trucked out of Benson to be scanned. After scanning they will be returned to the stacks.

[Crystal Kurzen] How will users know when they check the catalog that a book isn't available because Google has it for scanning?

[Damon Jaggars and Jen Kern] There will be a notification in the catalog display when an item has been sent out for inclusion in the Google project.

- In related e-book news, the Libraries have loaded records for ebrary books in the catalog. We currently don't own most of the books but are providing the records as a means of finding and accessing the ebrary content. When an ebrary e-book is accessed fewer than three or so times, we pay what is in essence "rent" on the book, but after a book passes a threshold of three or more accesses, we will automatically purchase the book for our holdings.

Student comments/concerns:

[Elizabeth George] Is the library still acquiring audiobooks?

[Damon] So far, most of the audiobooks we have are those we get from NetLibrary. These unfortunately are able to be downloaded only as Windows Media files and therefore are not legally playable on iPods. They can be burned to CD or downloaded to one's own computer, but due to DRM technology, the files self-destruct after a specific amount of time. They can however be downloaded again. The Austin Public Library has a great selection of audiobooks however.

[Matthew Thrasher] Faculty members have asked if there will ever be a service that will allow them to request photocopies of journal articles to be made in the libraries and delivered to their offices.

[Damon] We are working on a pilot program at the moment that involves scanning journal articles from items at the Library Storage Facility at the PRC; scans are then emailed to requestors. If the pilot works, it may be expanded if we can get it to scale to the rest of the libraries.

[Crystal] Is there any possibility of developing a program to page books and have them delivered from one library to another of one's choice?

[Damon] This is something we are looking at. This is a staffing resource issue, especially for PCL, which has such an enormous volume of materials. We have investigated having items delivered via campus mail, but the idea did not get very far with the campus mail service because of the anticipated additional load this would place on them.