

Public Services Advisory Committee
Meeting
May 16, 2006

Present: Ann Barrett, James Boxall, Geoff Brown, Ian Colford, Jane Duffy, Sharon Longard, Joyline Makani, Mike Moosberger, Terry Nikkel, Fran Nowakowski, Gwyn Pace, Helen Powell, Karen Smith

1. Digital Collections and their strategic priorities for PSAC
2. Official unveiling of Beta version of Dalhousie University Libraries' Federated Search Tool "Prowler"
 - Gwendolyn MacNairn presented a PowerPoint presentation and updated the Committee on the progress of "Prowler"
 - Phase I: Customization – subject categories (27) were sent to Central Search.
 - Phase II: Beta Testing – after soliciting feedback from staff it was decided to name the search engine "Cross Search".
 - URL: www.library.dal.ca/corsssearch
 - Suggested changes were sent to Central Search on Friday, May 12th. Gwendolyn is waiting to hear back from them. (These changes will be the basis for Phase III.)
 - Phase III: Prowler "soft" launch – The Federated Searching Customization Subcommittee unanimously agreed to change the name of the software from Cross Search to Prowler (new URL: www.library.dal.ca/prowler). The reason for this is that there were already 2 other search engines with the name Cross Search. It is hoped that by the end of this week we will be able to get faculty and students involved in testing Prowler and providing feedback. It is hoped this testing will be completed by the end of August.
 - Fulltext "best bets": CBCA Reference, JSTOR, ProjectMuse, Research Library, and ScienceDirect.
 - The Customization Committee will be meeting again at the end of August to consider further customization requirements.
 - Targets finalized and real launch – possibly timed with launch of new web site.
3. Information Literacy
 - a) Discussion of how the Information Literacy Coordinator may advance Information Literacy with individual subject specialists

- Fran mentioned that she is willing to assist subject specialists in communicating with departments
 - Fran also reported that she has met with Deans Council and the FASS Curriculum Committee
 - Fran queried Committee members on their thoughts about holding a retreat to discuss items such as:
 - what is expected of teaching librarians?
 - what is expected of the Information Literacy Coordinator?
 - what support is available?
 - what is the next phase / where to go from here?
 - Tentative date for retreat – May 31st from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon location TBA
 - Sharon expressed concern that if teaching librarians are successful in their endeavours to integrate information literacy with the curriculum in their departments that this would become very time consuming for staff.
 - Helen suggested it would be beneficial if Fran could develop guidelines to assist subject specialists/teaching librarians in making initial contact with their departments/faculties.
 - Helen also suggested that it is made clear to subject specialists/teaching librarians that it's ok to start small (no need to hit every class in the department).
 - Ann mentioned that at the Kellogg Library they have hired students to work reference desk shifts through the day to free-up time for the teaching librarians to teach.
 - It was felt that during the retreat discussion could take place regarding concerns staff have about the amount of time that would be required for them to visit departments to discuss integrating information literacy with the curriculum.
 - Fran indicated that the Information Literacy Committee suggested the following as a possible agenda for the retreat:
 - Introduction
 - Round Table Discussion
 - what can we do in a year
 - initiatives (individuals and groups)
 - challenges/opportunities within departments
 - Assessment and Evaluation
 - What Materials Would be Useful to Include in Teaching
- b) Committee Terms of Reference
- the Committee has not yet had time to consider its terms of reference and will undertake to do so at its meeting in June.
4. LIBQUAL teams - review of mandate for 4 streams further public services investigation and program for getting started
- Focus Group: Sharon Longard (Chair), Michelle Paon, Sandy Dwyer, Tina Usmiani
 - overview to be submitted to Jane by July 1st
 - Comparators Group: James Boxall, Gwendolyn MacNairn (Chair), Helen Powell, Karen Smith
 - by July 1st to report to Jane which institutions will be used as comparators and what each group member will be responsible for
 - SPSS Group: Ann Barrett (Chair), Linda Bedwell, Joyline Makani
 - responsible for running LIBQUAL data through SPSS
 - by July 1st report to Jane:
 - Strategic Directions technical language group (Jane Duffy, Fran Nowakowski, Gwyn Pace and Mike Moosberger)
 - will take information and research gathered from 3 groups above and will update the Strategic Directions with technical planning language based on that research
5. Institutional Repositories

- a) Colloquium
 - publicity issues postponed until Tina's return from vacation
 - timing: after beginning of term but before mid-terms (e.g. end of September or early October)
 - planning: Jane and Gwyn
 - in a couple of weeks Jane will send out a call for interested parties to participate in the planning process

- b) Continuation of discussion of 10 roles, based on Bailey, Charles "The role of reference librarians in institutional repositories" **Reference Services Review** vol. 33, no. 3 2005, pp. 259-267 that public services librarians can play:
 - #1 Jane (helping to create sensible IR policies)
 - #2 Gwyn (assisting in designing IR interface)
 - #3 Mike helping to identify self-archiving activity on campus)
 - #4 Michelle, Gwendolyn Helen, James/GIS, Subject Specialists (acting as change agents by promoting IR to faculty and graduate students)
 - #5 Michelle, Gwendolyn, Gwyn, James/GIS, Subject Specialists (informing faculty and graduate students about creative commons licensing options and publisher e-print policies)
 - #6 Subject Specialists (Depositing digital materials – or demoing how - for faculty if needed)
 - #7
 - #8 Fran, James/GIS (preparing web-based and paper documents that explain and promote the IR and advocate scholarly publishing reform)
 - #9 Fran (training users in IR and deposit and searching procedures)
 - #10 Karen, Reference Librarians (assisting local and remote users with IR utilization, answering questions about policies, etc.)

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m. with the agreement that PSAC will re-convene in September.