

University Senate Library Policy Committee Annual Report: 2007-2008

Voting Members:

David Borthwick (Mathematics)
Gray Crouse (Biology)
Nitya Jacob (Biology-Oxford)
Joel LeMon (Candler School of Theology)
Scott Lillienfeld (Psychology)
Sarah McPhee (Art History)
John Nickerson (Ophthalmology)
Jonathan Prude (Chair, History)
Anne Rector (Law School)
Ron Schuchard (English)
Ira Schwartz (Medical School)
Steven Strange (Philosophy)
Kelly Erby (GSAS student)
Leah Weinryb-Groshga (GSAS student)
Abbi Johnson (College student)
Wesley Packard (College student)

Ex-Officio Members

Richard Luce (Vice Provost and Director of Libraries)
Sandra Franklin (Director, Health Sciences Library)
Terry Gordon (Interim Director, McMillen Law Library)
M. Patrick Graham (Director, Pitts Theology Library)
Kitty McNeill (Director, Hoke O'Kelley Memorial Library)

Mission: The Library Policy Committee works with library staff and administration, the Vice Provost/Director of University Libraries, and the Directors of other Emory libraries to enhance the quality, utility, and accessibility of the libraries for the entire Emory community. It advises the Senate and the Director of Libraries on significant policy issues, acts as a major channel of communication between users and the Emory libraries, and may assist in communicating library concerns for the University administration and other units within the University.

Agenda for 2007-2008.

Though guided by the prospective agenda we set forth in September, the topics the Library Policy Committee (LPC) actually took up this past academic year reflected our evolving sense of challenges and opportunities facing the Emory libraries.

1.) The Committee continuously monitored a number of issues carried over from 2006-2007:

-The implementation of Emory's new policy on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD).

-The full roll-out of new protocols governing Reserves-Direct.

-The ongoing development of plans for the Emory Branch Library and for MARBL.

2.) Continuing a program begun last year, the LPC supported two symposia during 2007-2008. Featuring both invited guests and members of our own University community, these public conversations are intended to explore, and publicize, current and potential aspects of the Emory libraries.. The symposia for 2007-2008 were:

-A meeting in the fall on Digital Scholarship (organized by Richard Luce).

-A Spring gathering, “New Covenants in Special Collections” (organized by Steve Ennis) focusing on archives in the twenty-first century (and culminating in a public interview with Salman Rushdie).

3.) The LPC experimented with holding separate meetings organized around: the Law School Library; the Health Sciences Library (chaired by Sandra Franklin); the graduate and undergraduate student members of the LPC (chaired by Kitty McNeill); and faculty members concerned with issues relating to the Woodruff Library (chaired by Jonathan Prude). This format met with varying degrees of success (and we are considering whether or not to use it next year). But it did help illuminate the concerns of different constituencies. The students, for example, were able to raise questions about Interlibrary Loan procedures and about possible reallocations of library space to facilitate both group and individual study.

4.) Responding to news of Harvard’s initiative in establishing an open-access electronic repository for scholarly work by that University’s faculty of Arts and Sciences, the LPC held several extended discussions focused on the feasibility of a comparable undertaking at Emory. We have tentatively decided to sponsor a series of touring workshops during 2008-2009 to visit selected Departments (or groups of Departments) to discuss such a repository at this University. These workshops (comprised of Library staff and faculty members) would also seek to alert the Emory community to emerging copyright options available to scholarly authors.

Along with these workshops, other undertakings projected for next year include:

-Further symposia

-Continuing monitoring of plans for MARBL and the Branch Library

-Exploration into meshing the unfolding priorities and initiatives of the Emory Libraries with the overall priorities and strategic initiatives of the University.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Prude (Chair, LPC)