

LONDON'S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY



Dr Paul Ayris  
Mr Michael Chessum  
Dr Caroline Essex  
Professor Adrian Forty  
Ms Caroline Hibbs

Professor Richard North  
Professor Philip Schofield  
Professor Hans van Wees

*In attendance:*

Mr Gary Hawes (Secretary)

...ved from Dr Mike Cope, Professor David Price and Dr Hilary Richards.

*Key to abbreviations*

AB	Academic Board
FLC	Faculty Library Committee
ILCOAb	International Library Coalition for Open Access Books

- 1.3 Professor Philip Schofield had joined LC for 2010-11 as the Nominated representative of the Faculty of Laws.
- 1.4 Professor Hans van Wees had joined LC for 2010-11 as the Nominated representative of the Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences.
- 1.5 Dr Andrew Wills had joined LC for 2010-11 as the non-professorial academic staff member elected by and from the elected non-professorial academic staff members of AB.

**Reported:**

- 1.6 The Chair of LC welcomed the new members present to their first meeting of LC.
- 1.7 It was reported that since LC's last meeting, there had been various further discussions within the Provost's SMT concerning the best ways of engendering communication, discussion and decision-making regarding Library matters. Out of these discussions, proposals had emerged for how it should be possible to achieve greater functionality, transparency and communication concerning Library matters (see Minute 7 below). In light of this, the proposal to disestablish LC as part of the review of UCL committees that had taken place during the latter half of 2009-10 had been withdrawn until further notice.

**2 MINUTES<sup>1</sup>**

**Approved:**

- 2.1 The Minutes of the LC meeting held on 24 May 2010 [*LC Mins. 24-34, 2009-10*] were confirmed by LC and signed by the Chair.

**3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

*[see also Minutes 5, 6 & 6A below]*

**3A Library Committee Annual Report 2009-10**

**Noted:**

- 3A.1 LC was charged by its terms of reference to submit to AB annually (or at such frequency as AB may direct), for subsequent submission to Council, a written report of recent activities and developments within its purview.
- 3A.2 At its previous meeting on 24 May 2010, LC noted that the LC Annual Report 2009-10, which had been approved by the Chair of LC acting on behalf of LC, would be submitted to UCL Council via AB for formal approval. The LC Annual Report 2009-10 was formally approved by AB and Council at their meetings on 27 May 2010 and 6 July 2010 respectively.

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<sup>1</sup> Minutes of meetings of LC were available online at <http://ucl.ac.uk/staff/committees/library-committee/>.

4 **ELECTRONIC MONOGRAPH PUBLISHING**

*Received:*

- One of the big advantages of the ILCOAb model was that it would enable real (and faster) access to scholarly titles globally in greater numbers and more languages than ever before in spite of the diminishing resource of library budgets in the current economic climate;
- As well as helping to alleviate the impact of rising year-on-year journal subscriptions on library book budgets, the model would also help to reduce

- UCL students had hitherto tended to regard SHL as a useful resource because it duplicated a number of the UCL collections and also because it provided an option for quiet study and revision in the run-up to and during the examination period;
- The SHL had already agreed to dispense with its collection of PhD theses and to return these to their originating institutions – so this could be said to be evidence of one area where the level of service provided by the SHL had been reduced.

**RESOLVED:**

- 5.4 That LC members be asked to gather feedback from their faculty/department constituencies on whether or not i) the SHL was still regarded as providing a valuable service for their staff and students and ii) there had been any noticeable reduction in the level of service since the implementation of the refocusing option.

**[ACTION: LC members]**

2. UCL Library Services had collections of national importance in some areas. Should UCL continue to acquire material in these areas, with all the pressures on space that such a policy would bring? Or should these collections also be subject to criteria for relegation?

*Accommodation and provision for UCL Special Collections*

- 6.7 The lease on 140 Hampstead Road, where the UCL Special Collections were currently housed, would expire in September 2011, and UCL Estates and Facilities had advised that it would not be renewed as the Landlord had planning permission to re-develop the site. A temporary home, in London but outside the Bloomsbury campus, was being sought for the Collections for two years from 2011 to September 2013, and discussions had begun with UCL Art Collections and with the UCL Records Office to collocate their collections and services with UCL Special Collections in a refurbished space in central London from September 2013.
- 6.8 LC was invited to consider the following strategic questions:
  1. UCL Special Collections had a respectable list of collaborations and interactions with academic Departments over the use of rare materials to support teaching and learning. But much more could and should be done. In what ways could UCL Special Collections develop to support teaching and learning across the whole of UCL?
  2. Traditionally, UCL Special Collections had offered support for researchers – both inside and outside UCL. What new facilities should/could UCL Special Collections offer to support research once they were in new premises from 2013.
  3. Engagement with the general public outside UCL was a new agenda for UCL Special Collections, but one that would form one of the Key Performance Areas of the Library's new strategy. What should UCL Special Collections do to develop work in this area?

*UCL Library Services Strategy*

- 6.9 The UCL Library Services Strategy was currently being revised<sup>2</sup> and an expanded Planning Team had been established to take this work forward. Roadshows had also been made available to academic Departments to comment on work to date.
- 6.10 Four key performance areas had been identified for the new Strategy, which would be supported by SMART objectives and Key Performance Indicators to measure performance against the targets. The four key performance areas were: The Student Experience, Research Support, Public Engagement, Healthcare Practice.
- 6.11 LC was invited to consider the following strategic questions:
  1. What were colleagues' reactions to the suggestions for taking forward the 4 Key Performance Areas?

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<sup>2</sup> The current version was available online at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/Library/libstrat.shtml>.

2. What key objectives did colleagues wish the Library to accomplish in the next Strategy period?

**Discussion:**

6.12 The following points were raised during discussion:

- The UCL Museums and Collections had very clear disposal policies in place which were required to be approved by both MHCP and UCL Council. UCL did not currently have a disposal policy in place for its book collection. This needed to be addressed or otherwise it would risk the future acquisition of book materials by UCL;
- The Library Services collections of national importance had been acquired through purchases and donations and were in the areas such as Neurology, Ophthalmology, Paediatrics, Archaeology, Slavonic and East European and Scandinavian Studies. In total, they constituted a significant proportion of the Library's total collection.
- It would be desirable to have a strategy in place for the collocation of the UCL Art Collections and the UCL Special Collections, particularly since the sharing space could have benefits for teaching engagement, etc. The Ink Exhibition currently running at UCL would offer good examples of what was possible in terms of this;
- The providers of the space where the UCL Special Collections would be temporarily housed from 2011-13 had confirmed that suitable arrangements would be implemented for looking after these collections. There would also be a weekly van service that would be able to bring requested items to and from the temporary location.
- Of the four key performance areas that had been identified for the new Library Services strategy, the two key drivers would be The Student Experience and Research Support;
- The availability of core texts and print facilities were the two recurring areas that the student body had identified as priorities in their meetings with the UCL Union Sabbatical Officers – in addition to 24-hour library access. However, the Chair of LC reiterated that if this was the case, it would be helpful for the UCL Union to give a formal indication of this through submission of a ranked list of their priorities for Library provision. It was also noted that there was already a mechanism in place within the Library for ensuring that further copies of core texts were purchased for items heavily in use, and that students needed to be made aware of this policy so that they were not dissuaded from taking core texts out when there was only a single copy remaining.

**RESOLVED:**

- 6.13 That LC members be asked to take the strategic questions set out at Minutes 6.6, 6.8 and 6.11 above back for discussion within their faculty/department constituencies, with a view to informing the Chair of LC and the Director of UCL Library Services of the consensus of views of their faculty and departmental colleagues by January 2011 at the latest.

[ACTION: LC members]

## 7 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL 'OPEN TOWN MEETING'

### **Noted:**

- 7.1 One of the proposed arrangements for facilitating greater functionality, transparency and communication concerning Library matters within UCL (see Minute 1.7 above) was to hold an annual 'open town meeting' about Library issues.

### **Received:**

- 7.2 An oral report from the Chair of LC.

### **Reported:**

- 7.3 The Chair of LC drew attention to the following in his oral report:
- It was hoped that the annual 'open town meeting', which it was proposed should substitute for the Spring Term meeting of LC, would help to ensure that there was more of a focus on high-level strategic issues and provide an opportunity for the UCL community at large to further inform the formulation of Library policy. It was also hoped that this arrangement would facilitate the cascading of information relating to UCL Library Services news and developments to colleagues at departmental and faculty level;
  - It was envisaged that the format of the 'open town meeting' meeting would include a series of two or three brief presentations by Library Service colleagues on key topics or themes affecting Library Services and provision to Library users, followed by discussion and debate, with a view to this helping to inform Library policy and strategy, and a report by the Director of UCL Library Services on up-and-coming Library developments and events. Suggestions of possible topics for the first meeting included: Future Planning for Electronic Publishing and Delivery, the place of the Library in the ongoing UCL Masterplanning exercise and funding issues in the context of Library Services' contribution to priority areas identified by the student body and UCL's teaching and research agendas;
  - LC members were invited to suggest other possible topics to the Chair of LC and the Director of UCL Library Services. An email would be circulated in due course detailing arrangements for the first 'open town meeting' which would take place during the Spring Term 2011.



## 8 UCL LIBRARY SERVICES PROJECTS

### **Received:**

- 8.1 A report on currently funded projects, in addition to projects for which Library Services is presently seeking funding, at APPENDIX LC 1-03 (10-11).

### **Reported:**

- 8.2 The Director of UCL Library Services drew LC's attention to the following in particular:
- The total amount of project funding raised by UCL Library Services to date for 2010-11 (£40K) was considerably less than the previous year's figure, again reflecting how difficult it was in the current economic climate to secure funding from external sources;
  - UCL was to receive just under £200K from the EU Europeana Libraries project, matched by a contribution of £453K from its own resources (staff time as a contribution in kind). This was one example of how Library Services was resorting to bidding more for EU funding in collaboration with other European libraries, given the current squeeze on UK funding.

## 9 FACULTY LIBRARY COMMITTEES

### **Noted:**

- 9.1 Since the last meeting of LC, the LC officers had received the Minutes of the following FLC meetings:
- Arts & Humanities and Social & Historical Sciences (Joint FLC) – 27 May 2010
  - Built Environment – 10 May 2010
  - Laws – 10 November 2010
  - Mathematical and Physical Sciences - 2 June 2010

## 10 DATES OF MEETINGS 2010-11

GARY HAWES

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11 February 2011