

## Library Advisory Committee Report for 2011-2012

The Library Advisory Committee met with Dean Suzy Szasz Palmer once each semester. The following items were discussed:

1. Library Budget

Dean Palmer desires to be transparent in her budgeting process, and shared with the committee her current allocations and the status of spending, broken down by department with separate tables for serials and book acquisitions. Dean Palmer wishes to tweak the allocation formulas to better represent material costs for different disciplines while also continuing to consider department size and student needs. We also discussed the ongoing problem of end-of-year funds being used to “prepay” costs and the difficulties of budgeting in that manner for the library.

2. Library staffing

The Library is conducting a search for a new Technical Services and Digital Initiatives Librarian – the first round of the search was unsuccessful, at which point the committee revised the advertisement, collected new applications, and will interview this week for the position with campus visits the week after finals. The library is also going to hire a Circulation staff person and has hired two part time wage Circulation workers.

3. Library Purchases

The major purchases of note for the library are Digital Commons, an electronic archive that Dean Palmer hopes will become a repository for the campus; JSTOR 10, an update package for the popular database; Web of Science, another important science database with many social science materials; and other smaller packages in e-books, library media, and nursing. The library also continues to update its furniture and technology, and is cooperating with the DEC in development of smart classrooms and alternative spaces for learning. However, the Dean assured us that materials come first, then equipment as there are other funding sources for equipment that she hopes to use to supplement the library’s needs.

4. Library Events

The Library has held several events this year, including several author readings, a special collections event, and a student poster presentation. They have started planning the fall events and are always looking for suggestions of authors and speakers to invite to the library.