

Asia Pacific Library Advisory Committee Meeting
Draft Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 14 May 2009 at 9.00am
Library Meetings Room, RG Menzies Building

Present: Professor K Anderson, Dr D Campbell, Mr M Churchman, Ms K Collier, Professor R Cribb (Chair), Mr V Elliott, Ms S Kosse, Dr R Maliangkay, Ms A McKenzie, Dr K Onji, Ms R Osborne, Dr M Taylor

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Mr. Elliott welcomed members of the Committee to the meeting.

Mr Elliott informed the meeting that, as a result of a recommendation of the **2008 Information Infrastructure and Services Review** that an academic chair the Library Advisory Committees, Professor Cribb was approached to undertake the role of Chair of APLAC and he had accepted. Mr Elliott also welcomed Mr Michael Churchman who was invited, on recommendation of the Committee, to join the Committee as the student representative.

Apologies were received from: Professors G Barme, J Corbett, T Hull, A MacIntyre, J Minford, T Morris-Suzuki; Drs B Allen, C Ballard, R Barz, P Jackson, K Nourzhanov, N Tapp and Mr E Maidment

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

- R Osborne reported the appointment of Amy Chan to the position of Information Access Coordinator (South and Southeast Asia). Amy Chan's responsibilities include collection development for the Middle East.
- The minutes of the Meeting were accepted.

3. Division of Information

3.1. 2009 Budget

Mr. Elliott reported on the impact of the 2009 Division of Information Budget, in particular, that:

- due to budgetary constraints the Library was unable to fill a number of staff vacancies, with the exception of the position of Information Access Coordinator (South and Southeast Asia and the Middle East)
- there is little money for equipment within the Division in 2009. Some funding made available from the 'Better Universities Renewal Fund' (BURF) will allow for

the upgrade of the Information Commons printing system in the second half of 2009 and the creation of new learning spaces across the Library

- the 2009 Access and Collections (A&C) Budget of \$8.3M represents the same amount allocated in 2008. A supplementary amount of \$300,000 was allocated to cover possible downward movement in the value of the Australian dollar. The \$300,000 and the 2008 carry-forward of \$470,000 will be held centrally as a reserve fund. Any unspent funds from 2009 will be carried forward to 2010 as a contingency fund
- the ANU's A&C Budget was not keeping pace with the amounts provided to the other Go8 (Group of Eight) libraries. Mr. Elliott will draw this to the attention of Chancelry.
- that Mr. Elliott participated in a meeting in early May between GO8 Librarians and representatives from the publishers Elsevier, Springer, Taylor & Francis and Wiley-Blackwell. The meeting discussed how academic libraries could best manage access to journals during the global economic crisis. Issues looked at included: price roll-backs; new business and pricing models for serial packages; usage statistics; provisions for Open Access and copyright release; and alumni access. The publishers undertook to report back to the group by the end of May. It was noted that similar meetings were being held between libraries and publishers in the United States.

3.2 Review of Information Infrastructure and Services (IIS 09)

Mr. Elliott reported that the second phase of the *Review of Information Infrastructure and Services* was complete and that its findings would soon be released. The second phase is focused on administrative arrangements for information infrastructure and its direct relevance to the Library is expected to be minimal.

3.3 Scholarly Information Services Planning Objectives 2009

Mr. Elliott spoke to the previously distributed *Scholarly Information Services Planning Objectives* document. Mr. Elliott drew the Committee's attention to the 'Value Framework' item, noting that it is an exercise to determine the return on investment in the information resources provided by libraries to their communities. An international consulting firm would be surveying three of the GO8 in detail in the second half of 2009, including the ANU. This would be followed up with testing with focus groups in the other universities, before reporting to the GO8.

4. Access and Collection

Ms Osborne reported on Asia Pacific Access & Collection (A&C) matters, in particular:

- the status of the Asia Pacific A&C budget at the end of 2008. An end-of-year budget spreadsheet for 2008 was submitted, and attention was drawn to the high

level of acquisitions in the majority of collection regions and the healthy ratio (40/60) between serials and monograph expenditures. There was a higher than usual expenditure on binding in 2008 as a result of the Collection Relocation Project

- the projected 2009 Asia Pacific A&C budget was tabled, showing the overall budget allocation to Asia Pacific and its distribution between the regional collection areas. The figures show that, after subtracting the expected amount for serials expenditure, there was approximately \$400,000 available in the budget for individual item purchases.
- a list of major acquisitions for 2008 was tabled
- the Library's negotiations with the KITLV in Jakarta to provide an approval plan acquisition service for Indonesian language material up to the value of EUR10,000 per annum. The negotiations were well underway and a collection profile was being refined with the participation of Indonesia scholars at the University. Ms McKenzie provided additional information regarding the cessation of the NLA's *Indonesian Acquisition Program* noting that because of budget difficulties, and the unlikely prospect of finding additional funding for the *Program* there was little chance of restoring this service in the near future. The NLA will however continue to maintain an office in Jakarta to provide acquisitions and cataloguing services for its own collections.

5. Library Client Survey

Ms Collier tabled a summary of results of the *2008 InSync Client Survey*, a biennial survey commissioned by the Library to gauge client satisfaction with ANU Library resources and services. Ms Collier drew particular attention to the following:

- the small drop in overall satisfaction levels compared to the 2006 survey, possibly related to the dislocation experienced during the course of the Collection Relocation Project in 2007 and building works in 2008
- continued high level of concern over opening hours and the lack of computers. The Library will look at creating a better spread of hours across the eight locations to try to assist students, whilst maintaining costs.
- multiple copies of monographs for undergraduate courses were also an issue.

6. Collection Relocation Project

Ms Kosse spoke to the *Collection Relocation Project Final Report*, which was tabled. The project had commenced in 2007 and completed in late 2008 with the removal of approximately one third of the collection to Hume, the addition of 330 new learning spaces, 4 flexible learning laboratories and 261 additional

power points. Increased wireless access and new furniture had also been provided and the Art Library had been refurbished.

Mr Elliott thanked Library staff for their work in completing the project. He thanked Ms Kosse for her leadership of what had been a complex and demanding project.

7. Report from the National Library of Australia

Ms McKenzie reported on the recent restructuring at the NLA which saw the following changes:

- the amalgamation of Asian and Overseas collections management in one unit under her leadership
- the amalgamation of the Australian and Overseas technical services
- the retention of a separate Serials Branch

Ms McKenzie stated that 2010 will see measures taken at the NLA to adjust to the demands of “the digital deluge” and that there will be closer coordination of business plans between the three national institutions of the National Library, the National Film and Sound Archives and the National Archives.

8. Next Meeting

Another meeting of the Committee will be organized later in the year.

The meeting closed at 10.30am