Program Steering Committee
Meeting Summary
Wednesday, July 19
Rm. 486, 10:00

Present: Dean Allen, Alberta Bailey, Anne Marie Candido, Herb Cihak, Tom Dillard, Jan Dixon, Beth Juhl, Judy Ganson, Elizabeth McKee, Marilyn Rogers, Tim Zou

Dean Allen opened the meeting by announcing the creation of a library Awards Committee. The charge of the Committee is to select library employees to be recognized and honored for their achievements and outstanding work on behalf of the University Libraries. The awards will be conferred annually on Library Workers’ Day, as designated by the American Library Association. The membership of the Committee will be announced soon, as well as the charge. (Postscript: See the charge of this committee on the “Current Committees” link on the StaffWeb at: http://libinfo.uark.edu/committees/default.asp--under “Personnel Committees”).

Judy Ganson announced that the University is conducting a self-study and has asked for a narrative and statistics that reflect the current status of the Libraries. The focus of the self-study will be based on goals established in the 2010 Commission reports. The self-study will culminate in a visitation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

Dean Allen told those present to keep in mind when planning for the retreat in May the reports of the University of Arkansas 2010 Commission. Two reports have already been written, and a third called “Raising the Bar” will be issued in the fall semester of this year. These publications should be a part of our focus in our own long-range goals. We should also keep in mind how we can contribute to the economic development of the state, a key goal of the University.

Dean Allen opened discussion about the retreat planned for next May. The group determined that the following should be headings for library personnel to use when considering discussion topics for the retreat: research and teaching; scholarly communication; facilities, statistics, and measurements; special collections; development and public relations; personnel recruiting, development, and diversity; public policy and economic development.

Herb Cihak pointed out that the Law Library will be discussing how to reach out to students and into the classroom more effectively and will be planning to increase instructional opportunities. With regard to staff development, more workshops and presentations will be offered. The Law Library will also be helping with the research needs of individual faculty by partnering with them more actively. The use of facilitators is key in the process, as well as speakers in the field.

Dean Allen thanked everyone present for their input on the discussion of the retreat and said that the following will be sent to all personnel in the library: 1) an e-mail describing
the nature, goals, and some procedures related to the retreat, 2) a list of suggested
discussion topics, and 3) a list of articles to read during the planning and preparation for
the retreat.

Dean Allen mentioned that it will be determined soon who will actually be attending the
retreat.