

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY

Library Users' Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 May 2006.

Mr G Murdock (Chair)

Prof A S Alexandrov (abs)	Mr P J Holligan (abs)
Ms P Alfrey	Dr R E Kinna (abs)
Dr S M Allin (abs)	Prof Y V Kurylev (abs)
Mr W Chen (abs)	Dr J Lawrence
Dr D S Coates	Prof G Mason
Dr G Egan	Mrs M D Morley
Dr M A Evans (abs)	Prof P H Roberts (abs)
Dr M Gil-Molto	Dr F Rowland
Dr D Graham	Mr R D Seager (abs)
Dr H Gross (abs)	Mr A H Tyler (abs)
Dr R J Heath (abs)	Dr L Webb

In attendance:

Jeff Brown, Graham Walton and Kelly Friend.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Prof Alexandrov, Dr Allin, Mr Chen, Dr Evans, Mr Holligan and Dr Kinna.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2006 were confirmed.

3. Matters arising

Min 5.1. Mary Morley and Graham Murdock met with the Vice-Chancellor to discuss the budget, and put forward the main points noted at the last meeting. The Vice-Chancellor listened attentively and has made her views clear to the Budgetary Review Group.

Min 4. The JISC e-books working group will meet in September, when Gabriel Egan will raise the issues discussed at the last meeting.

4. Materials allocation methodology

Jeff Brown, Support Services Manager, explained the methodology, noting that departmental serials lists were becoming more difficult to separate, given the move to electronic format: most e-journals were licensed as part of bundled subscriptions to the output of particular publishers, and the cost of individual titles could not always be easily

apportioned at departmental level. No changes to the methodology were suggested.

5. Library user survey 2006

Graham Walton outlined preliminary findings from the recent survey on how study space is used in the Library. There were 482 responses, which were useful in identifying different ways in which the building is used, and which areas and facilities are most heavily used. Six main recommendations were noted for consideration by the Library.

6. Secure Electronic Delivery of inter-library loans

A presentation was given by Jeff Brown on obtaining articles electronically instead of as photocopies.

The service is slightly cheaper and quicker than buying photocopies. It was noted that the British Library are likely to accept electronic signatures by the end of the year, obviating the need to print ILL request forms and bring them to the Library.

More information on the SED of inter-library loans is available from the Library's web page: http://www.lboro.ac.uk/library/ILL_SED.htm

7. Library budget for 2006-2007

7.1 Mary Morley explained that the Library had put in separate bids, a 'standstill' budget and one (with the other DISS Services) for enhancements including:

- £150,000 for additional electronic information
- £25,000 for piloting 24/7 opening
- An additional Library post, in part to meet the demand for study skills training.

The Budgetary Review Group considered the bids at the end of April, but there are no outcomes as yet.

7.2 The only change to the charges for services is to inter-library loan photocopies, which will increase by five pence, reflecting direct costs from the British Library.

8. Librarian's report

The report was noted.

9. Service level agreement, 2006-2007

The draft was approved.

10. Operational plan, 2005-2006

Progress against the plan was noted.

11. Election of Chair, 2006-2007

Graham Murdock will continue as Chair for the coming year.

12. Any other business

12.1 It was queried whether support would be available from the Library for students struggling with writing skills. This was formerly provided by the English Language Study Unit, but the Library has recently taken on the responsibility for providing training in study skills.

At present the Library does not have the resources for one-to-one support, but Mary Morley will discuss the issue with her Support Services colleagues. It will also be considered in the Library's strategic planning process.

Ruth Stubbings, Stephanie McKeating and Lizzie Gadd will be invited to the next meeting to give a presentation on information literacy and study skills teaching, and discuss possible future developments.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 October 2006 at 1pm in Library Training Room 1.