



Librarians Committee Meeting Minutes
Saint Augustine's College, Prezell Robinson Library
Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 12 noon – 2:00 p.m.
Convener: Linda Simmons-Henry

In attendance: **Saint Augustine's College:** Linda Simmons-Henry, Director of Library Services; **Shaw University:** Jahala Simuel, Reference Librarian; **Meredith College:** Laura B. Davidson, Dean of Library Information Services; Jackie Manning, Media Services & Acquisitions; **NC State University:** Carolyn Argentati, Associate Vice Provost & Deputy Director of Libraries; **Peace College:** Anne Burke, Director of Library Services; **CRC:** Jenny Spiker, Director.

Ms. Henry opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Prezell Robinson Library at Saint Augustine's College. The minutes of the 2008 meeting were approved. She then invited the members to share news from their own libraries.

Updates from Members:

- **Peace College:** Anne Burke began her directorship of the Peace Library in the summer of 2009 after serving on the library staff at Shaw University. She talked about the rededication of the Lucy Cooper Finch Library in mid October. She said everyone is very happy with the addition and renovation and that student use of the library is increasing so much that they now have more student use per day than they used to have per week.
- **Shaw University:** Jahala Simuel brought greetings from Interim Director Musette McKelvey, who is recuperating from a leg injury.
- **Meredith College:** Laura Davidson reported on receiving the first payment from their new Freeman library endowment and the work she has been involved with for the library and the entire college for the Meredith SACS review this year. She said she has learned the importance of colleges under review providing context in relationship to similar institutions. She also encouraged library directors to use the SACS review process as a way to tell your story to others on your campus.
- **NC State:** Carolyn Argentati talked about NC State's groundbreaking this week for the new James B. Hunt, Jr. Library on Centennial Campus. She explained some of the state-of-the-art features of that facility and how it will free up much-needed storage space in the main campus library.
- **Saint Augustine's College:** Linda Henry reported that she too has been working on SACS documents and the college will be hosting a book signing for Dr. Prezell H. Robinson's new book. The program will be filmed and available on the WAUG and CRC channels.

Discussions:

Weekend use of libraries and e-book usage: The private college representatives discussed some of their issues and ideas about increasing weekend use of their libraries and dealing with staffing issues for those hours. Ms. Davidson said that she has been including e-book usage along with regular usage in her reporting on library usage statistics.

Analysis of CRC usage chart: The group looked at the CRC usage chart provided by Ms. Argentati at NCSU. (See attached.) The overall numbers of loans from the other colleges to the NCSU library was down by 40 from the previous year (748 compared to 788). There was a significant increase of Peace students (205 compared to 90), most likely because the Peace library was closed last year for the addition and renovations. The largest decrease was from Meredith to NCSU (331 compared to 505). Several people pointed out that decreases could be a positive indicator of the smaller home colleges attracting more visits to their own facilities.

Reaffirmation of CRC Library Cooperative Agreement: The committee voted unanimously to reaffirm the CRC Library Agreement.

Professional Development Workshops:

- The committee looked at the report from the second summer CRC Library Workshop, “Managing Change in Libraries,” on July 22, 2009 at Saint Augustine’s College. They agreed that the workshop had been very valuable and voted to have another workshop this coming summer. Topics to consider are technology services, circulation/public service and outreach to people on campus (particularly ways to encourage faculty members to explore uses of educational technology). The group reaffirmed that the emphasis of the workshop be on serving all levels of library professional and paraprofessional staff. They encouraged the planners to make it possible for staff members with similar responsibilities (e.g., reference, circulation, technology) to have substantial interaction with each other.
- Each library director will appoint someone from her staff to serve on this year’s subcommittee to plan the workshop.

Ideas for CRC Website: Ms. Spiker announced that CRC will soon have its own website and asked for suggestions for content in the library section. They suggested including a contacts list, the library agreement, a how-to section and highlights and photos from the workshops.

Possible Collaborative Grants: One thing that grew out of last summer’s workshop was encouragement to explore grants for collaborative library projects among CRC institutions. Ms. Spiker said she’d poll her colleagues at other consortia across the country. Possible topics suggested were funds for archiving and making archives searchable, preservation and library disaster management.

Regular reminders encouraging collaboration: The group encouraged Ms. Spiker and others to regularly share ideas about future collaborations of all kinds.

Next meeting: The full committee will meet next October at Peace College. Dates TBA.

--Jenny Spiker, Director, Cooperating Raleigh Colleges