LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETING
February 11, 2010 12:00-1:00pm
Amarillo Library Conference Rm. (2nd Floor)

Present:  
Kishore Yalamanchili, MD Faculty Representative SOM
Mitchell Eichhorn Student Representative SOM
Amanda Kapple, Student Representative SOAH

Absent:  
Teresa Sterling, PharmD Faculty Representative SOP
Jody Wilkinson, MD Faculty Representative SOAH
Catvu Luong, Student Representative SOP

Guests:  
Cheryl Simonsen, MLIS
Terri Wilson, MS
Yumi Yaguchi, MSIS

The meeting was called to order at 12:05p.m.

Introductions were made of all present.

The minutes of the February 17, 2009 Library Committee Meeting were approved.

Cheryl Simonsen introduced the Harrington Library’s newest Assistant Director, Yumi Yaguchi. Yumi supervises Serials and ILL and is the liaison to the School of Medicine.

Cheryl gave an update on the Library. At the end of the fall semester, the library received carpet cleaning and new paint, thanks in large part to the students who brought up the subject of the condition of the library to the student senate. The library would like to thank the student body for its support. With this and the furniture the library received from the Family Medicine move at the end of the summer, the library staff feels that the library space is a much more comfortable and inviting space in which to work, study, and relax.

As part of the gubernatorial mandate to make budget cuts, the Harrington Library reduced its budget 5% by cutting some student assistant hours. This cut does not have any effect on the hours that the library is open.

Cheryl met with Dr. Michael Hooten about the future location of the library, specifically when or if the library can be moved to the main campus on Coulter. Dr. Hooten believes that a move to the main Coulter campus will not be possible until 2020, barring an unexpected monetary windfall.

Terri Wilson gave a library technology update. The software program Deep Freeze has been added to all public computers in order to minimize viruses from downloads and to keep machines free from all of the documents that get saved to the hard drives over time. Dr.
Yalamanchili suggested that the library might consider going to Macs as these machines generally have fewer incidences of infection and tend to be easier to use.

Terri also announced that many new e-books will soon be available thanks to additions to the STAT!Ref subscription.

Terri asked about the use of UpToDate in the School of Medicine. Dr. Yalamanchili was unaware of any global subscription to UpToDate, but he said that the Amarillo Internal Medicine department purchases individual subscriptions for its residents. Dr. Yalamanchili noted that physicians and faculty do not use DynaMed and suggested if this database does not get much use, it would be better to drop the subscription as they think it is not a substitute for UpToDate. Mitchell Eichhorn also confirmed that students are hesitant to use DynaMed because they think its information is not as comprehensive as some of the other databases. Dr. Yalamanchili said that the School of Medicine is going to get Dr. Berk involved in trying to find money to buy UpToDate. Cheryl and Terri confirmed that they would seek out the cost of and usage statistics for DynaMed.

Terri asked the committee what its thoughts were on the Library’s Monthly Promotions and how the Library could reach more people with its promotions. Amanda Kapple suggested using the main computer lab in the School of Medicine to have the demonstrations. Dr. Yalamanchili mentioned that most people might not be interested in spending 30 minutes to an hour learning how to use a new database when they might only use it once for one paper or one project. Both Amanda and Mitchell confirmed that students do not generally need to do a lot of research, and most already have their own methods of searching for the information that they need.

After some discussion on availability, Dr. Yalamanchili volunteered to be the chair of the library committee.

General comments and suggestions:
1. Create handouts that show step-by-step how to find certain kinds of information or use certain databases. Especially useful if linked to a webpage that is mobile-enabled. Then email everyone the link so they can bookmark it on their smart phones.
2. Best way to push information is to send out emails with explanatory subject lines. No one subscribes to RSS feeds.
3. Send notifications about library events as Outlook meeting invitations. People can accept the invitation and it will automatically go into their calendar, and they don’t have to keep a flyer or email to remember the event.
4. The library website is hard to navigate. The tree model of web design can be very frustrating to try to remember how to get back to pages that you have looked at.
5. Is there anyway that users from home can keep from having to log in multiple times? First you have to log in to get to TTUHSC network, then you have to log in to individual databases. Is this an eraider problem or a proxy problem?
6. Need to change library committee bylaws to indicate that committee does not meet every other month. Library staff will forward this suggestion to library administration in Lubbock.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55p.m.