Collection Development Meeting

April 28, 2011, 11:00am.

Meeting was held in the Teaching and Learning Center, building I .

Attending – Bill, Jane, Frank, Cindy, Tim and three currently enrolled students, Ashley, David and Michael.

The purpose of this meeting was to review how the databases are presently organized and the visual construct of our Library homepage. The Librarians felt that student (users) input was important to understand what areas needed improvement in making sure that access was as easy as possible and visually friendly for students.

The students were asked to view how the databases are organized and discussion followed amongst the group. Students made the following suggestions based on their experience in viewing webpages –

1. Change to cascading menus to relieve clutter.
2. Language at times was not easy for students to understand, highlight key terms in describing the content of databases, or perhaps use large text.
3. “search” e-books as an individual category.
4. Bold borders-draw more attention to relevant information.
5. Change “I” to “?” in description of content of each database.
6. Alphabetical and by subject listings should be more prominent colors or eliminate option. The graying of these radio buttons is confusing (CCLA restrictions).
7. Presentation of “Research Guides,” should be prominent.

The students felt that not enough students are aware of what the Libraries have to offer in general. Discussion amongst the group followed, and the librarians felt, as a group, that the student input was valuable. The way students view electronic and online web pages might be very different from our own, and garnering student input should be done for any significant changes the Libraries are considering in the areas of graphic presentation on the web. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00noon.