The meeting began with introductions. JoAnn Jacoby, the Team’s liaison from Library Administration, talked a little bit about process and procedures. We have twin challenges of meeting leaner times with the goal of excellent service.

Steve Marshak distributed documents from previous interactions with Library Administration, including a draft Memorandum of Understanding and a proposal for utilizing library space in the Natural History Building (NHB). Marshak reiterated the School of Earth, Society and Environment’s (SESE) commitment to seek positive change while retaining the brand name and identity of the geology collection. Remodeling plans for NHB are currently in limbo as we await the outcome of a structural study and building inspection. Following this review, plans are to begin with the fourth floor of the building to house Atmospheric Sciences faculty who are overcrowded in their present location. The main phase remodeling (which will include repurposing the present Geology Library space for other uses) is 1-2 years in the future.

The committee discussed the geography collection and agreed that the disposition of maps from the Geology Library will be one of the major recommendations from this group. We plan to looks at maps very broadly across the Library’s collection.

Lura Joseph brought up the need for a discussion on the criteria to be used to disseminate the collection and to make decisions on the definition of the core collection. The committee suggested she draft the criteria for review by SESE faculty. A short discussion on the use of SESE faculty of online materials followed. Atmospheric Sciences are very comfortable online, having moved their physical collection within the past two years.

Bill Mischo is working with the College of Engineering on a Memorandum of Agreement to see if merging the Geology Library with the Grainger Library is agreeable and within the scope and goals of the Grainger master plan. Jacoby noted that mergers between libraries from disassociated colleges and schools have been successful at UIUC in the recent past.

In a housekeeping note, the group has agreed to begin our meetings at 8:45 a.m. in order to compensate for many faculty members needing to leave before 10 a.m. to get to class on time. Our next meeting will be October 7 at 8:45 a.m. in the Chemistry Library Conference Room, 170 Noyes Lab.