Summary of Feedback on 1/22/10 Report Draft Received from Stakeholders

Lisa Hinchliffe, Coordinator of Information Literacy Services, University Library

12 January e-mail to Linda Smith

Thank you for the opportunity to review this draft report. Wonderfully detailed and comprehensive - the group did a lot of work! I particularly appreciate Appendix E (of course!) and look forward to any ways that I can work with the implementation group that follows to respond to the opportunities identified for enhancing the health information instruction programs. Best, Lisa

David Buchner, MPH Program Director

21 January e-mail to Mary Beth Allen

I would say that at University of Washington, there were 7 Health Sciences Schools (ie Colleges) (Pharmacy, Public Health, Nursing, Medicine, etc) that shared a large Health Sciences Library. I thought this worked great. Schools hired their own librarians who worked with faculty to augment the resources of the main library. I have no trouble with creating one location with a focus on health sciences. But I'm new and don't have a lot of information re: needs nor history re: use and purpose of the current library.

I've been in discussions re: the term "wellness" several times. I don't have strong opinions but to me the term could be dropped from the proposed title and it would be fine. It currently has cultural cache and is used in program titles, but I don't usually see it in names of departments or institutions because it doesn't have well-defined scientific meaning. We usually use terms like health promotion disease prevention.

Tanya Gallagher, dean, AHS

21 January e-mail to Paula Kaufman

I won't be able to attend the open meeting tomorrow regarding the library report but I wanted to share some comments. I think this was very well done and I want to congratulate you and your committee on the report and the process that is being used. I have just two concerns. One is the name that was proposed "Health and Wellness Information Center". I do not think that is an appropriate title and would prefer something like "Health and Wellness Sciences Library". Also I think the BEL space would be the best location. Let's talk about this when we can. I just wanted to be sure I had responded to your request for input. All my best, Tanya

Wynne Korr, Dean, School of Social Work

12 January e-mail to Linda Smith

I read the report with great interest -- the group has made interesting recommendations. I want to
note one area of substantive study that was largely ignored, but is a critical part of our health-related work. It is the area called by some "behavioral health" and incorporates mental health and substance abuse. Noting briefly that 'psychiatry' is included does not get to the breadth and depth needed in this area. The majority of our social work students are specializing in this area and, depending how you define the area, a third to half my faculty do research in this area. Also, there was a note about data storage. I have started discussions with Randy Cetin at CITES about our data storage needs and the potential for a data coordination center. Seems we should all get together. Again, I really do think you all have done an incredible job. The proposed models would serve the needs of the campus well.

Alexander Scheeline, Chair, Senate Library Committee

12 January e-mail to Linda Smith

I found the Draft Report to be most enlightening reading. I haven’t yet had a chance to go to the index.html site. The 1/22 session should be interesting.

Editorial comment: The PDF is the best document I have seen come out of NSM. Detailed, explicit, and provides a strong basis for understanding trade-offs if only some of the recommendations can be followed.

Doctoral student in Kinesiology

15 January e-mail to Linda Smith

I received the email below and made some comments (attached) for the committee. I received my bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Kinesiology at the U of I and have been an avid user of the AHS library.

Thanks for providing the opportunity to provide input to this important process!

Comments included:
1. p. 7 With regard to the Health Information Portal: “I didn’t know that this portal existed.”
2. p. 8 With regard to the scope of the portal: “I suggest also including health communication and physical therapy. Students in both athletic training and rehabilitation would benefit from access to physical therapy information sources.”
3. p. 9 Under outreach: “I suggest also connecting with alumni of the respective colleges that are now practicing professionals and may want better access to health and wellness information. Often access to such information is not nearly as great as it is at the University of Illinois libraries. These individuals might also be willing to donate money toward the new initiative or pay a subscription fee to access the Health Science and Wellness Information Center.
4. p. 13 Data storage and manipulation: “Would be useful if this service included access to CDC datasets.”
5. p. 13 Digital resources: “Is one of the goals to increase acquisition of digital books? It offers two benefits: 1. Increases ease of access to such materials by patrons; 2. Can potentially decrease the amount of physical space needed to house books.”
6. p. 13 Increased collaboration with UIC’s Library of Health Sciences (LHS): In response to the observation that users should perceive an integrated UIUC-UIC collection of resources and services, Melinda says “Amen!!!!!”

7. p. 16 Core and Emerging Health Information—suggests additions of Disease and Injury Prevention; Health Communication; Health Literacy

Anonymous Feedback Submitted to Web Form; Forwarded by JoAnn Jacoby

5 February submission

My comments are directed to the Health Information Services Planning Team.

In planning for the future of health information services on campus, the team has suggested three scenarios for the physical space of the proposed “Health Science and Wellness Information Center” (HSWIC). The first two scenarios involve incorporating the HSWIC into larger units—a new Social & Behavioral Sciences Library, or the Funk ACES Library. The third scenario proposes replacing the current AHS Library with HSWIC.

In their draft report, dated January 11, 2010, the team found numerous examples of academic and interdisciplinary programs in the areas of health sciences that are expanding. Among these is the campus Health and Wellness Initiative. Here is a quote from their website:

"The Health and Wellness Initiative is a campus-wide initiative to aggressively advance Illinois’ health and wellness research efforts through a highly visible, campus-level initiative. The initiative was launched following the recommendations of the Health and Wellness Steering Committee and the Health and Wellness Implementation Team reports. The goals of the campus-wide program are:

* to bring together scholars from a wide-range of units with expertise in health research
* to expand the capacity and prominence of health and wellness research at Illinois though innovative work, new partnerships and large, multi-investigator efforts
* to position the institution for the highest levels of success in securing external support for innovative scholarship in health and wellness arena."

http://www.provost.illinois.edu/committees/health_initiative.html

With the campus placing such a strong emphasis on expanding health research and scholarship, it seems contraindicative to shrink the visibility of a library that would serve these disciplines by folding it into another library.

I am more than surprised that there has not been a stronger push to create a stronger, more vibrant, stand-alone interdisciplinary health sciences library, which can be expanded upon. For example, creating a stand-alone interdisciplinary health sciences library, and adding
other subjects to it—such as behavioral health, which was suggested by the Dean of Social Work. The presence, identity, and visibility of such a library should be elevated and broadcasted, not reduced or hidden away.

Creating a strong stand alone library could also invigorate the collaborations with other campus entities which the team has identified—such as the UIC-Health Sciences Library, McKinley, Campus Rec, etc.

It's imperative that the plans for the future of Health Information Services at the Library reflect the growing importance of this area recognized by the campus. I believe this requires the Library to focus on creating and expanding a stand-alone interdisciplinary health sciences library on campus. Creating such a library truly fits both the campus initiatives, and the New Service Model's guiding principles.

Thank you for your consideration.

5 Feburary submission

feedback = Regarding the January 22nd, meeting, I agree with all of the comments that were presented by both Synthia Sydnor and Mary Beth Allen.

In addition to their comments, it seems that it might be most cost-effective to maintain the AHS Library, in its current location. Rather than "scale-back," on services, the patrons might be better served, by ramped-up services and extended operating hours. This would entail bringing in another Librarian, from the Social and Behavioral Sciences, as well as the S.B.S. collection. This would compliment and augment the services of the current ASH Librarian. The space could be reworked and refined, so that it would be a hub for Health Information on campus.

As for the issue of "sense of place," patrons frequently comment, that they prefer the AHS Library, rather some of the other campus Libraries. It is not just a "study hall," for the patrons. They realize it is a place, they can get one-on-one assistance with their assignments. The current space is conducive to both individual and group query sessions.

As for the name issue, that will be a most important and controversial decision, since a distinction will need to made, that sets it apart from the UIC Health Sciences Library. In addition to this, the name should also encompass the various aspects of health and well being represented. Maybe something like The Applied Health Nexus Library or Health Nexus Library??