Meeting Agenda
Welcome (5 min)
Background (5 min)
Review of Major Recommendations for International and Area Studies (10 min)
Proposed Recommendation for Action Plan (5 min)
Feedback on Discussion Questions (20 min)
Open Discussion/Q&A (10 min)
Next Steps (5 min)

Background
In Fall 2007, the University Library began a campus-wide discussion of the future of Library services that we have called the “New Service Models” program. As part of this program, we have held open meetings with campus colleagues, meetings with academic departments and programs, and individual and small-group meetings with faculty, students, and administrators with an interest in new approaches to the provision of Library services at Illinois. As a result of these discussions, a number of changes have been made to Library programs and facilities, including the closure of the Labor & Industrial Relations Library (Fall 2007), the integration of the City Planning & Landscape Architecture and Afro-Americana libraries into complementary Library units (Summer 2008), and the coming closure of the Library & Information Science Library (Summer 2009). Descriptions of these and other NSM projects are available on the NSM Web site at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/nsm/>.

In January 2009, Provost Linda B. Katehi reiterated her support for the NSM program in a letter to the Dean of Libraries, but challenged us to undertake more substantive change efforts in light of broader challenges in the information environment and in the economy. She charged the Library to provide an “Action Plan” to her office by April 30th that would allow us “to move more quickly into a new service infrastructure that will allow us to protect our core commitments to library collections and services while also allowing us to make the best possible use of our financial, physical, and human resources.”

Over the past several weeks, a planning team comprised of faculty and staff from the Library and representative academic programs have met to address the proposals to: 1) “[establish] an ‘Area and International Studies Library’ that will provide a robust service point focused on resources related to the study of defined regions of the world and allow for more effective integration of resources collected in vernacular languages into broader service programs”; and 2) “[establish] a ‘Languages and Linguistics Library’ that will provide a robust service point focused on resources related to the study of languages, literatures, and cultures.” The work of this team, along with relevant background documents, can be found at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/nsm/intstudies/index.html>.

Summary of Major Recommendations
The International and Area Studies Library will provide a gateway to Library services and collections designed to support teaching, learning, and research in the distinct, but complementary, enterprises of international, global, and area studies. It will also serve as a focal point for service to international students and visitors,
and to students pursuing co-curricular international experiences such as Study Abroad. The International and Area Studies Library program will represent a new approach to realizing the promise of the Library’s International Strategy, a new model for supporting the study of other nations, regions, and cultures across the curriculum, and a new opportunity to coordinate Library services, collections, and facilities with the campus commitment to foster the “global competence” of our students.

The International and Area Studies Library will incorporate relevant service programs currently housed in the Africana Library Unit, the Asian Library, the Latin American & Caribbean Studies Library, the Modern Languages & Linguistics Library, and the Slavic & East European Library. It will also incorporate relevant service programs currently provided through other physical units or other means, including European Union Studies, Global Studies, and support for Study Abroad.

The International and Area Studies Library should be housed in 225 Library (current Slavic & East European Library) and adjoining space in 200 Library, and should provide access to relevant subject specialists, core reference materials, representative print serials, public workstations designed to support use of international materials (including those in non-Western languages), and appropriate space for information services, instructional services, and exhibit space. The services provided through the physical space should be complemented by a robust digital presence that facilitates in-depth research into international, global, and area studies issues, as well as integration of relevant materials from collections served by other Library units, e.g., international documents and government information.

Proposed Recommendation for Action Plan
Integrate the relevant service programs of the following units into the International and Area Studies Library: Africana Library Unit, Asian Library, European Union Library services, Global Studies Virtual Library, Latin American & Caribbean Studies Library, Modern Languages & Linguistics Library, and Slavic & East European Library.

Discussion Questions
We are interested in feedback on the following questions related to the above recommendation as we prepare the first draft of the Action Plan for the Provost:

1. In addition to the core Library units noted above, what other Library service programs might be coordinated through, or contribute to, the development of the International and Area Studies Library?

2. What are the most important Library services to be provided within this new unit in order to facilitate broader use of international materials and English-language materials related to the study of the world outside U.S. borders, and to foster engagement between librarians, faculty, and students to promote both global competence and regional expertise?

Next Steps
The first draft of the Action Plan will be disseminated for comment by April 10th. Comments related to this meeting, or to the Action Plan, may be directed to Scott Walter, Associate University Librarian for Services and Associate Dean of Libraries <swalter@illinois.edu>. Comments must be received by April 15th to ensure their consideration for the final draft of the Action Plan.