Attendees: Mary Beth Allen, Nancy O'Brien, Lynne Rudasill, Jeff Schrader

We briefly discussed criteria and collections for inclusion in the new unit, and had switched to the development of questions we would like to have Jeff answer when he joined us.

Discussion of questions for Jeff Schrader, Facilities, regarding collections and space

Several questions were articulated to present to Jeff regarding the facilities that would be available and/or changed in the new unit. Shortly after this discussion began, Jeff joined us. The issues touched upon are summarized below:

More lounge seating will be provided that matches the rest of the library and much of the furniture that currently sits in Room 100.

Nancy would like to keep the feel of the library consistent with its history and age. Jeff discussed a variety of options for tables and chairs and Lynne noted that many of our students have indicated an interest in furniture that is amenable to small group discussions.

Some shelving will be repurposed from other areas, but it will be basically similar to that used in the IAS and Languages and Literatures Libraries. Accessibility is a particular issue for this unit.

A retro-lighting crew will look at the lighting and re-lamp it with more energy efficient bulbs, replace ballasts and do other maintenance to update the fixtures, but not remove them.

New flooring will be installed, but there will be ongoing discussions regarding the type – carpet, tile, wood, cork, etc. This is a high traffic area and is in proximity to the entry way which makes the choice a difficult one. Carpeting, although likely to get dirty easily, will help keep noise down, as would the more expensive options of cork or wood.

The windows will be worked on in the same manner as that used for the Reading Room windows, and there may be some replacement. We also discussed blinds and shades for the windows.

Office space options were discussed. Jeff did point out that offices would end up being created much like those in LLL. He indicated they might be installed elsewhere since it was a shame to cover up the windows with these units and that we should keep in mind that they may be moved several times in the process of renovating the Main Library Building according to the ultimate plans of the architects.
Nancy conveyed that the staff would like to see the staff offices in Room 100 mirror the circulation desk in BEL with room for reserves and some permanent staff work area.

Collections decisions, according to Jeff, will require the toughest decisions. He needs the current number of lineal feet of shelving for the collections involved. When items are being transferred, the maximum shelf load will be 85%. Currently the units are shelved at a much higher load.

After Jeff left, we discussed the possibilities of reviewing the collections working with circulation reports, Bean Counter, and other options.

(Summary compiled by Lynne Rudasill)