Veterinary Medicine Library Service and Space Planning Team

BACKGROUND:

The Veterinary Medicine Library has experienced a significant change in how patrons utilize its collections and services. The availability of resources online has reduced the importance of physical proximity to bound literature, resulting in a decreasing need for prime space in an academic building to be devoted to the storage of physical volumes. Simultaneously, the College of Veterinary Medicine finds itself in need of additional conference and classroom space to meet the demands of a growing student population and revised curriculum. The College has retained architects whose work will include repurposing approximately 50% of the Veterinary Medicine Library’s allocated space in the CVM Basic Sciences Building. The Library has already begun reducing its collection size by transferring out lesser used materials and exploring new approaches to providing access to resources and services that support research, teaching and clinical practice in Veterinary Medicine.

Working in parallel with the planning process in the College of Veterinary Medicine, and with a goal of informing their planning, the Veterinary Medicine Library Service and Space Planning Team now being charged is asked to articulate a vision for library services for Veterinary Medicine within the context of the College and the Clinics and in relation to other Library service programs on campus.

CHARGE:

The Team will:

1. Articulate a service profile that:
   - Situates the proposed services for the veterinary sciences as a core component in a broader array of Library service programs supporting scholarly work, especially those supporting the life and health sciences (e.g., in the Scholarly Commons, in the Life Science Information desk in the Funk Library, and the UIC Library of the Health Sciences-Urbana). The proposed service profile should be in accord with the recommendations from the Reference Services Implementation Team.
   - Draws on conversations with relevant campus communities to further define existing and emerging needs of students and scholars, explore opportunities to further develop specialized library services to support research, teaching and learning and deepen engagement with educational initiatives in the College through instruction (as outlined in Information Literacy Considerations for New Service Model Teams) and other research support services.
   - Considers the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Council on Education accreditation standards for Library and Information Resources - Section 12.5 <http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/coe_pp_12_elements_of_the_self_study.asp>, compliance with which is “judged on the basis of availability of library materials (either
copy or electronic), credentials of the librarian, and learning resources support for the teaching program.”

- Identifies services that might be more effectively provided at a larger service point in other Library units or automated (e.g., 24 hour access swipen Card and self-check out)
- Looks ahead 5 years to consider what service profile, and associated footprint, will be most appropriate over the medium-term

2. Work with the Assistant Dean for Library Facilities to develop a space program that supports that service profile

3. Collaborate with the Assistant Dean for Library Facilities and the NSM coordinator to develop timelines and schedules for implementation, including:
   - a timeline and phased plan for transferring collections to other locations
   - Following the Special Collections Guidelines for Library Moves or Closures, the Team should work with the Special Collections Division to determine the disposition of administrative records, rare books, and maps
   - a table of any staffing and resource needs for each phase in the transition
   - a plan for communicating the transition to the new services profile to campus and library constituents

4. Recommend a plan for assessing the effectiveness of the new configuration of collections and services

5. Submit a report with its recommendations to the University Librarian by December 1, 2011.

MEMBERS:

Library:
- Tina Chrzastowski, Team Leader
- Melody Allison, Funk Library
- JoAnn Jacoby, NSM Coordinator
- Jeff Schrader, Library Facilities
- Greg Youngen, Veterinary Medicine Librarian

College of Veterinary Medicine:
- David Bunick, Chair of the College of Veterinary Medicine Library Committee
- Jon Foreman, Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs
- Joseph Kunkel, Director of Facilities, College of Veterinary Medicine
- Gay Miller, Professor, Pathobiology, Veterinary Clinical Medicine and Agricultural and Consumer Economics
- Paul Eubig, Representative from the University Librarian’s Student Advisory Committee

Submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration: August 8, 2011
Approved by the Executive Committee: September 12, 2011