Review of Think Team Materials
Library Assessment Committee
1/27/09

Prefatory Statement: During the 2006-2007 academic year, library staff members embarked on a long-term goals process centered on various “Think Teams”. The teams focused on the following questions:

Where are our students and are we there with them?
What should the catalog and our other discovery and access tools do for our users?
What should we collect?
What are our organizational values?

As a way of assessing past and future goals and priorities for the library, the Library Assessment Committee reviewed all Think Team Committee reports and Think Team progress materials from the past 2-3 years and identified 4 categories:

1) Accomplishments
2) Ongoing projects/services
3) Further study/Decision-Making
4) “On hold” issues.

This review process was very helpful to us as a committee, for it identified possible areas of further assessment, especially in the accomplished category. It also enabled us to take note of the many recent accomplishments and ongoing efforts in the library. Many of these changes and improvements would not have happened without the persistent commitment and dedication of individuals and groups working together determined to make positive changes within our organization. In addition, the review identified areas that we may want to focus on for future goal development and improvement, if they are still relevant to the needs of the university, the library and the new strategic plan.

Accomplished
Creation of Student Library Advisory Committee
Creation of Electronic Resources Librarian position
Creation of Web Technologies Librarian position
Creation of Digital Production Services
Programmer position – Rick Neal assumed additional duties; Shawn Starkey provides additional support
Undergraduate theses -- Digitized
Research Guides were enhanced; revision of Scholarly Search Engines webpage
Catalog kiosks were installed
Staff nametags were implemented
OPAC interface improvement
New Journal Locator
New Article Finder
Installed new self-check machine
Reference Roundtable includes all library staff
Conference Update Sessions – initiated
Reference Collections were merged
Ongoing Projects/Services
Digitizing local “hidden” collections (*Richmond Dispatch*, Boatwright papers); Further work needs to be done with making them more accessible, promotion, adding metadata, etc.
Emphasis/organization of library data – Assessment Committee and Statistics Committee
Weeding of government documents collection
Report on Faculty/Student interviews
Development of an annual library marketing plan
Needs assessment for staff development
Library website redesign, including web 2.0 features
New materials processing – Science and Business materials processing have been merged
Library promotion emphasis – part of Director, Outreach Services position
Staff Development emphasis – part of Director, Outreach Services position
Library instruction emphasis – part of Head, Information and Instruction Services position

Further Study/Decision-Making
New materials processing – government documents and media materials
MRC video archival project (current server space not available? other issues?)
Off-site storage for Boatwright and Parsons Music Library collections
Discovery tools for rare books and special collections (i.e., creating non-MARC metadata)
How to regularly communicate our library organizational values (created by a Think Team)
--i.e., informal values discussions, value of the week, etc.
Institutional Repository for UR? (student/faculty work? do we establish our own or work with consortiums? who will manage?)

On Hold – External Collaborative Efforts Beyond the Library
Archives unit – needs funding collaboration with IS and the university; VBHS collaboration
Cooperative Collection Development with RALC – requires RALC cooperation
Off-site storage with RALC or VCU – requires cooperation and funding