NEW BRUNSWICK LIBRARIES FACULTY
ANNUAL REPORT, 2008 – 2009

During the fiscal year, the New Brunswick Libraries Faculty (NBLF) met 8 times:
September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12, 2008, January 6, February 13, April 24, May 15, 2009

New Brunswick Libraries Faculty (NBLF) meetings serve as a forum for general discussion and planning among the public service librarians on the New Brunswick/Piscataway campuses. Reports from the NB Collections Group, NB Information Services Group, NB Access and NB Multimedia Services are regular agenda items.

Collaborations and communication

– With approval from the Planning and Coordinating Committee, the New Brunswick Libraries website became part of the RUL faculty pages; meeting minutes were moved over and S. Bartz continues to integrate all the content in collaboration with the Libraries webmaster.
– Guest AUL Francoise Puniello discussed policy for use of library meeting rooms by other RU departments.

Financial Resources

– Efforts were made by K. Denda, J. Consoli, and T Kuchi to connect with RU academic departments and other university libraries regarding cluster and/or diversity hires, which bring extra funding into the unit. Issues of process and definition prevailed. This discussion continues as a major thread of all open line discussions.
– ALA preregistrations were coordinated by the Travel Committee, chaired by R.Womack; these amounts depleted available funds.

Organizational effectiveness

– The PC Coordination Team, comprised of 3 Unit Computing Specialists and 1 Library Associate, became a major agenda item for NBLF when the suggestion was made to strengthen the relationship of the UCSs to the TAS Systems unit through a change in reporting structure. T. Glynn led discussions, which took note of the severe budgetary pressures in RUL. The faculty was unanimous in affirming the need for increased collaboration with and support for Systems. At the same time, they affirmed as strongly that the creative technical support these staff offer to NB libraries’ users, and the integrity of the team’s four-building NB public services base are equally important.
– R.Womack, T. Kuchi, C.Wu, and J. Sloan led discussions at several meetings on NB faculty line needs, and methods for assessing those needs. Several charts, statistics, and other information concerning the numbers of faculty, students, and departments on the NB/Piscataway campuses, provided the basis for these discussions, which sought to determine the number of public service librarians appropriate for providing high level
service to these users. Librarians see the role of the departmental liaisons, along with an 
understanding of the impact of RUL online services, as instrumental in this assessment; 
discussion will continue in the coming year.

– In related discussions, two lines were sacrificed to budget givebacks: Environmental Sciences, 
and Instructional Teaching and Development. The resulting line priorities were acted 
upon, with successful recruitment for the Physical Sciences, Business, and Area Studies 
positions. At this time, the Music-Performing Arts Librarian position is still frozen.

– Year long study resulted in the Music-Douglass Task Force Report, with the goal of making a 
series of space and staffing recommendations for Douglass Library to the administration 
at a time when three ‘locations’ are being consolidated in the building: the Music Library, 
Douglass Library, and the Media Center.

– T. Kuchi, M. Wilson, and J. Consoli, initiated a review of the NBL faculty organization and 
by-laws; effort continues into 2010.

– Faculty personnel.

– – We welcomed three new tenure track colleagues during the year: Melissa Gasparotto, 
Qian Hu, and Gene Springs.

– – Nancy Kranich was welcomed as Special Projects Librarian on an annual 
appointment basis.

– – Erleen Harris worked as a Librarian V at the Douglass Library for the year ending in 
May.

– – We also happily report two successful promotions: Karen Hartman to Librarian II and 
Marty Kesselman to Librarian I.

Jane Sloan,
NBLF Chair, 2008-09
July 31, 2009