

DARWIN COLLEGE

Library Committee

A meeting of the Committee was held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th February 2010.

There were present Margaret Cone (Chairman), Espen Koht (Computer Officer), Alice Hall (Student Librarian), Elisabeth Leedham-Green (Archivist), Hilary Powell, David Adams, Daniel Jew and Emma Goodby (DCSA Welfare Officer).

1. Apologies were received from Michael Scott.
 - 1a There were no declarations of interest.
2. The minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated, were approved. EG reported that she had posted two notices about the Library on Whatsup, and would continue to do this regularly. AH reported that there was no problem with the fastening of the cases in the Finley Collection, as long as (the few) users were shown how to close them properly.
3. The Committee noted that the new Student Librarian, Lindsey Friedman, was expected back from Japan this month. AH would train her, especially in cataloguing, and would hand over responsibility when Lindsey was ready. The Committee thanked Alice (again) for her conscientious and effective work in the Study Centre.
4. EL-G reported little progress in the attempt to find a new and more convenient home for the archives. She is preparing a paper for Governing Body, detailing her needs and present difficulties. The Committee expressed its very strong support for her requests, as the current situation is wholly unsatisfactory.
5. The Student Librarian reported on:
 - purchases and requests — purchases are mainly through Amazon, where the gift certificate scheme is providing £100-200 a month; the CUP balance is £2344;

donations, — in particular of a 30-volume set of the collected writings of John Maynard Keynes, by Prof. Simon Keynes, under the will of Dr Milo Keynes (an Honorary Fellow of the College). It was decided to shelve these volumes in the main Library, and make them available for borrowing;

the DVD collection, which is growing steadily, as is the number of DVD

Library members;

the use of the Study Centre;

the projected visit in April of a group of students from Strathclyde University (part of a project on the architecture of Cambridge libraries);

and plans for the training of, and handing over to, the new Student Librarian.

6. The Committee (with the help of suggestions from MS and EL-G) continued its ongoing discussion on a review of the Library's stock, and the purchase policy. There had been very little response from the Fellowship to the request that they check the books in their subject, and suggest excisions or additions. It was agreed that Committee members should consider which reference books would be useful, with a view to buying as many as possible from CUP, using our quite large credit. There was much discussion of the need or otherwise for a reclassification of the non-fiction holdings. AH and EL-G would investigate the classification scheme of eg The Library of Congress. EK proposed that we should make a decision on classification, and begin a new system as we purchase new books. The Fellowship will be approached once more, and the DCSA's satisfaction survey in the summer will include questions about the Study Centre. There was a feeling that the Study Centre/Library should be more visible on the College website, and we will make representations to the relevant people. Meanwhile CC proposed that MC should provide the Webmaster with a list of current members of the Committee, and with a copy of these Minutes.

7. There was no other business.

As the scheduled date of the next meeting is inconvenient for some members of the Committee, a new date will be proposed as soon as possible.