In FY09, the Library Committee held four meetings, one of which was the joint meeting with the Information Technology Committee to discuss information technology issues of interest to both committees, particularly the Learning Management System update.

The major items of business for the committee included the annual materials budget request; the library’s strategic plan and faculty research study; the Learning Commons; update on library space plans; and digitization. Highlights of these discussions are summarized below.

1) FY10 Materials Budget:
The library requested a 9% increase (an 8% increase to maintain the status quo and ensure the protection of the current book, journal, and electronic resource base and an additional 1% to continue the multi-year efforts to expand research coverage in order to support current research initiatives). Given the economic situation, Tisch Library has received a 4% materials budget increase for which it is very grateful. A 4% increase represents a 3% reduction in purchasing power to cover inflation of library materials and no increase to augment research materials. The library plans to maintain its electronic databases and journals while reducing books and other one-time purchases in subject areas that are less book-dependent.

2) Tisch Library Strategic Plan and the Faculty Research Study:
The faculty research study is one of Tisch Library’s strategic plan goals. Thirty A&S and ten to fifteen Engineering faculty members will be interviewed in order to assess how they do research and what their teaching process is. The goal is to interview at least one faculty member per department. The deans have been instrumental in identifying faculty. Digital Collections and Archives, Academic Technology, and ITS are partners in this study. The interviews will be completed this spring; the data will be analyzed this summer.

3) Learning Commons:
The data from the faculty research study will inform the Learning Commons’ plans, which will include resources for media, video production, research, and presentation design and development. Recommendations for the Learning Commons will be proposed in fall 2009; FY11 is the current target for implementation. Advancement remains optimistic about raising funds for the Learning Commons’ construction.

4) Library Space Shortage:
The plan and budget to add 13,000 linear feet of compact shelving to complete the shelving of bound serial volumes on level G was approved by the Trustees at the February 2009 meeting. The construction has been scheduled for summer 2010 when it is expected that all shelves will be totally full.

5) Digitization:
Tisch Library will complete its 2 year $70,000 commitment this year to support the Boston Library Consortium’s Open Content Alliance by digitizing 2 Tisch Library journals. At a recent meeting with the university libraries, the Provost indicated support for Open Access initiatives so more specifics will be developed with the University Library Council’s Scholarly Communications Team.

Submitted by the Members of the Library Committee:
Michael Reed, Biology, Chair of the Library Committee
Gregory Crane, Classics/ B&P rep
Patrick Forber, Philosophy
Mark Kachanov, Mechanical Engineering
Jenna Kubly, Graduate Student
Gina Kuperberg, Psychology
John McDonald, Music
Dan Pasternack, TCU Senator
David Proctor, Graduate Student
Antonella Scarano, TCU Senator
David Sloane, German, Russian and Asian Languages
Leah McIntosh, Executive Administrative Dean, Office of the Dean of Arts & Science, ex officio
Jo-Ann Michalak, Director, Tisch Library, ex officio
Laura Walters, Assistant Director, Tisch Library for Teaching and Learning, ex officio