With Scripps Library Closure University Tries to Minimize Impact

The Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) Library at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) closed on 29 June, succumbing to budget cuts and a change in library usage that has included a shift toward electronic and print collections to support the Institution’s academic mission. Research and curriculum support services also continue to be available, by appointment.

On the Scripps campus, reaction to the closure has been mixed. Peter Brueggerman, who has worked at the library since 1993 and worked there since 1984, said, “It takes you a while to sort through what it means to lose a library in the library world.” Brueggerman, whose responsibilities include maintaining the Earth sciences collections coordinator and Scripps Institution of Oceanography Archives curator, told Eos that he has gone through the various stages of grieving about the library and now is in the acceptance stage.

He said, though, that it was “improvising” to refer to the SIO library as closing. “It’s a collections and services reconfiguration, really,” Brueggerman said. “The collections of books and journals, the historical archives. Nothing is being closed in that sense. It’s what the building is called and the footprint shrinking.”

Brueggerman said the library closure could have more of an impact on some people including those who need more access to older literature—than on others to rely on electronic media. He said several measures could help to blunt the loss of the physical library, including a planned service to deliver books to Scripps from the Geisel Library and a plan by ProQuest to provide a group study space for students who previously had gotten together in the SIO library. “A smaller institution has come in response to concerns raised by professors, graduate students, and others about the library,” he said.

The impact of the library’s proximity to geophysics, emeritus, told Eos that he believes that the university’s library plans will take care of the needs of the Scripps community and that the SIO library archives and special collections will be protected. “If my hopes are fulfilled, then the closure will be an inconvenience but not a major setback. I do understand the financial strain on UCSD has been very severe and something had to be done,” Munk noted, adding that he is pleased that some of the former SIO library space will become available for other Scripps activities.

Catherine Constable, professor of geophysics at SIO, noted that Scripps has always had a library, and that she used SIO’s library to access geophysical literature. “Other research libraries around the country, the Scripps Library is closing in response to budget cuts and the reality that in-person use of the library has greatly decreased as a result,” she said. “I hope that the replacement library becomes more easily accessible online. The result is that a larger extent on electronic media. He said several measures could help to blunt the loss of the physical library, including a planned service to deliver books to Scripps from the Geisel Library and a plan by ProQuest to provide a group study space for students who previously had gotten together in the SIO library. “A smaller institution has come in response to concerns raised by professors, graduate students, and others about the library,” he said.

In the longer term—over the next few years—the greatest need is the application of consistent and accepted methodologies and for this reason SKC has strongly advocated for the Geoscience Alliance,” Berntsen said. “This is because there are no higher education institutions that addresses the value of information. Recent meetings have looked at more of an impact on some people—those who need more access to older literature—than on others to rely on electronic media. He said several measures could help to blunt the loss of the physical library, including a planned service to deliver books to Scripps from the Geisel Library and a plan by ProQuest to provide a group study space for students who previously had gotten together in the SIO library. “A smaller institution has come in response to concerns raised by professors, graduate students, and others about the library,” he said.

Separate facilities for each subject area are done within 4 years? The workshop participants’ answer was yes. To initiate the effort, a community of practice will be formed in 2012. Another workshop for implementation of these steps took place June 2012 in Boulder, Colo.

Many large- and medium-based Earth observation systems, such as Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GEMS) and LandSat, are justified by citing their benefits to scientific knowledge and their impacts on government decisions about environmental policies. Yet, knowledge and their impacts on government policies is one of the greatest need is the application of consistent and accepted methodologies and for this reason SKC has strongly advocated for the Geoscience Alliance,” Berntsen said. “This is because there are no higher education institutions that addresses the value of information. Recent meetings have looked at