Tisch Library Director's Report
Library Committee, April 9, 2014

Web Redesign
The revised website is now available in beta for testing. For the beta, we are supporting recent versions of all major browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, and Safari version 7). For Internet Explorer, this means version 10 or later. We are planning to support Internet Explorer 9 in production. The URL for the beta site is http://beta.tischlibrary.tufts.edu. We hope you will take it for a spin and send in feedback.

Most website content is in place but you may notice a few pointers to the current site. Web forms are not in place yet and some content is still being developed. The next milestone is our production cutover, expected in mid-to-late May, prior to the start of summer school.

Reserving Group Study Rooms
As predicted in the last Director’s report, we activated the option for students to reserve group study rooms. The service went up February 18 and students are making active use of it. We’ve had over 1,000 reservations since then, serving an estimated 2,760 attendees (the reservation form asks how many students will attend, but this is not verified).

University Library Council (ULC)
The search for a new University Archivist and Director of Digital Collections and Archives is underway. As a result of the departure of LouAnn Westall, Associate Provost Kevin Dunn will convene the ULC for the remainder of the academic year. The ULC is proposing a consulting engagement to benchmark Tufts Libraries with select peers and provide recommendations for alternative organizational and funding models.

Position Vacancies
Tisch library has 3 open positions we hope to fill in the coming months. The first is a desktop support specialist position. This position was approved for FY14, but we were asked to use temporary staff since last summer while TEAM worked on the IT reorganization. TTS has now approved moving forward with a permanent hire. The second position is the Manager of Finance and Administration (formerly Tisch Administrator, held by Paulette Johnson who left at the end of February). This position will be posted as a 2-year term limited position, again pending further TEAM developments. The third position is a result of Miriam Allman’s retirement. Miriam was the science bibliographer and we have decided to revise this position as a Head of Collections role, supervising the collections staff and also leading selection of STEM materials. By establishing this position as a team leader it acknowledges the key role this person serves in negotiating our major licenses and is permitting us to update job descriptions in an area where the nature of the work has been changing rapidly.

Undergraduate Research Awards
This is the second year of our research award program for undergraduates and the winners have been selected. There are 3 categories for awards: first year writing program, introductory courses (001-099) and advanced courses (100-199). Tisch will have a poster exhibit of the awards on Friday, April 18, from 12:30-1:30 and we invite you to drop in to see these in the lobby.