In FY12, 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.

The major items of business for the committee included the FY13 materials budget request; NEASC; current use of e-books; the Tisch Library website; technical support expectations for Tisch Library; and the new Tisch Library Undergraduate Research Award. Highlights of these discussions are summarized below.

1. **FY13 Materials Budget:**
The library requested a 7% materials budget increase for FY12, and will likely receive a 5% increase when the budget is finalized. We are very grateful for this increase and believe it demonstrates the administration’s long-term commitment to preserving and building strong library collections. A 5% increase should cover inflation and perhaps give us a little room for growth.

2. **NEASC:**
NEASC Standards VII and VIII address library and IT concerns together. Committee members agreed that the library proactively provides opportunity and clear avenues for users to submit feedback regarding their needs as well as questions and concerns. On a university-wide level, technology; poor IT support for classroom instruction; confusion about the various IT units (IT, AT, UIT, ESTS); the platforms issue: Mac v. PC; the low number of FSP’s and the inconsistent quality of their service/support; and the lack of a feedback mechanism for all of the above were among the committee members’ top complaints. Members also would appreciate having a software list on their computers as to what is available to them (e.g. – Mathematica, EndNotes, etc). Faculty would like greater transparency involving technology and analysis of decisions related to it. Particular to the library, some faculty raised the problem of poor resolution of the digital projectors in media classrooms for viewing art and other images. Members were informed that using different cables and connectors may resolve this problem.

3. **Current Use of E-books:**
Tisch Library has purchased over 100,000 electronic books, mainly in the sciences, some in the social sciences, and some full text rare books in the Humanities. Both faculty and students currently are using e-books. Tisch has been buying e-books that allow for linking, printing, and lending at the chapter level. None of these activities are allowable on the whole book level. Some vendors are restricting fair use rights. Most vendors set up their contracts as a package. They can remove books or even change text, in some instances, without notification.

Faculty have started to assign chapters from e-books. Both they and their students appear to be having positive experiences. Such use also helps to decrease the financial burden of buying an expensive book for a limited use. It was suggested that graduate students may utilize e-books in their work, especially in their investigative and research work. Tisch has held focus groups with undergraduates regarding e-books, but has not yet done so with graduate students. Tisch also has looked at reserve lists to see if those materials are available as e-books. Selection remains limited; a recent review of hundreds of titles yielded only five purchases. Tisch staff continue to monitor the reserve lists and e-book purchase options.

For additional information, see [E-Books at Tisch Library 2012](#).

4. **Tisch Library Website:**
Tisch is working on a new website. The design and development process will be guided by the following goals: i) showing users which resources are available as well as how to find them easily; ii) providing immediate connection, beyond names and titles, to the human resources of the library; iii) offering access to the library’s treasures, including rare books and special collections; and iv) promoting the library as an intellectual center of campus.
The new site will be developed using Drupal, which will allow for agility and flexibility, continuous growth and improvement, staff’s ability to publish, decentralized maintenance, and one-to-many publishing. Faculty members’ early and frequent input into the design process will help inform development decisions. Additionally, TCU Senate and GSC reps will be involved in the design process and usability testing.

In January 2012, Tisch launched its first mobile website. This initiative is designed to provide the student community with convenient and streamlined content prioritized to meet the needs of mobile users. Student programmers assisted in the effort, which highlights Tisch hours, events, and contact information, in addition to providing a full search of the library catalog.

5. Tech Support Expectations for Tisch Library:
Tisch Library conducts a student and faculty survey every two years. The survey contains a special section, the focus of which varies. This year’s special section will look at the expectations of technology offered and support provided. Library ITS currently are evaluating their service model. Survey results will aid in formulation of changes to that model. The library also is reviewing its role in supporting students working with datasets and in manipulating data.

6. Tisch Library Undergraduate Research Award:
Tisch Library developed a new award this year recognizing outstanding undergraduate use of the library’s collections, services, and staff in the production of an exemplary research paper or project. Currently enrolled undergraduates were eligible to apply either individually or as a group. A $500 first prize and a $250 second prize were awarded for papers/projects in each of 3 categories: the first year writing program (ENG 1-4 or any course taken to fulfill the college writing requirement), 001-99 level courses, and 100-200 level courses. The winners were announced at the undergraduate ceremony on 20 April:
- First Year Writing Program: Emily McDowell (1st place); a 2nd place was not awarded
- 1-99 course category: Julia Richieri (1st place) and a Psychology 64 team, made up of Karen Chen, Khanin Yu, Sean Nilan, and Avinash Asthana (2nd place)
- 100-200 course category: Jacob Denney (1st place) and Allister Chang (2nd place)

Submitted by the Members of the Library Committee:
Michael Reed, Biology and Chair of the Library Committee
Madihah Akhter, Graduate Student Council Representative
Benjamin Carp, History
Danielle Cotter, TCU Senate Representative
James Ennis, Sociology
Patrick Forber, Philosophy
David Garman, Economics and B&P Committee Co-Chair
Valencia Koomson, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Monica McTighe, Art and Art History
Malik Mufti, Political Science
Isabelle Naginski, Romance Languages
Kinjal Shah, TCU Senate Representative
Sam Thomas III, Chemistry
Richard Weiss, Mathematics
Leah McIntosh, Executive Administrative Dean, Office of the Dean of Arts & Science, ex officio
Laura Walters, Associate Director for Teaching, Research, and Information Resources, Tisch Library, ex officio
Laura C. Wood, Director, Tisch Library, ex officio