The Council on Libraries and Information Technology (COLIT) held six regular meetings as well as conducted business via e-mail during the 2004-2005 academic year. The Council continues to function as a sounding board and advisory committee for the University Libraries and the Office of the Chief Information Offices (CIO) regarding policies and major projects. Meetings are also a venue for discussing pertinent issues impacting faculty, staff and students. Meeting minutes and other committee records are maintained at the website listed above.

Renovation of the Thompson Library: The Council regularly discussed progress with library renovation and impact of transition plans on faculty, staff and students. Along with the University Libraries, we co-sponsored two open forums (November, 2004) for faculty, staff and students to provide input about the library renovation plans.

Contributed to the Functional Review of the CIO’s Office: The chair met with both internal and external review committees during this administrative review process and shared key points the Council has been interested in monitoring. We have asked to see the final report when it is issued.

Digital Union
The Council met at the digital union. Following regular business, members toured the facility to learn more about what is available for our own use and to promote with faculty, staff and students.

Input on policies and processes related to libraries and technology systems
The Council monitored the progress with planning for the implementation of the new CARMEN Course management system, knowledge bank, wireless networking, faculty expertise system, e-portfolios, technology in classrooms, and internet security. Meetings included presentations about each and dialogue about key issues. There is interest among members in sponsoring university-wide dialogues about the knowledge bank in the coming year.

Budget Requests: The Council reviewed the overall budgetary request for the CIO’s Office and University Libraries prior to their submission.

USAC Membership on Council: Though the Rules Committee of Faculty Senate rejected the Council’s proposal of adding a support staff member, USAC representatives will continue to be invited to attend Council meetings to stay abreast of Library and Information Technology issues.

Resolution Submitted to Faculty Council: The COLIT passed a resolution at the May 18, 2005 meeting to commend the University Libraries’ Strategy for responding to the Rapidly Rising Cost of Some Scholarly Journals. This issue will come before Faculty Council in fall, 2005.
Some issues the committee plans to explore this year include:
- how to stimulate faculty participation at council meetings and to seek input more broadly from faculty, staff and students
- Monitor the concerns brought to University Senate by Regional Campus faculty concerning electronic journal access. This issue came to the COLIT late in May, 2005. The issue was resolved over the summer prior to the new academic year. COLIT members will continue to explore this situation.
- Contribute to the program Review Process for the University Libraries
- Continue to seek the opportunity to have staff representation on the Council