Steering Committee
Minutes of the meeting January 26, 2005

Present: Berta, Bicknese, Bloss, Case, Daugherty, Dorsch, Ford, Guss, Hurd, Jacobson, Jones, Lambrecht (convener), Logan, Malinowsky (timekeeper), Naru (minutes), Schellhause, Scherrer, Shuler, Starkman, Weller.

1. Minutes of the meetings of January 5, 2005, were approved with minor changes. Malinowsky will send approved version of the minutes to ULIB@uic.edu for posting in the newsletter.

2. To frame Steering's budget discussion, Berta presented a report on the current budget in state and ICR funds; Ford presented the personnel detail; Bloss summarized the library materials budget.

The projection for FY05 is that the Library will spend $250,000-$300,000 more than budgeted for salaries and will have a $200,000 deficit in operating funds. Therefore, the Library will have to use about $500,000 of its reserves on current year spending.

The outlook for FY06 is a flat budget with some mandated salary increases and no capital funds. Steering suggested some ways to reduce state and ICR spending, including individual efforts to contain costs for supplies and services, hiring more Federal work study students, and increasing grant funding.

3. Scherrer reported on the TV2010 library staff sessions. TV2010's next step is to hold discussions with groups outside of the library.

4. The Computers for Everyone program (revised/everything out of warranty, less the Arcade requests which will be addressed at a future Steering meeting) was endorsed by Steering.

5. The committee discussed spending some of the reserve for facilities projects and Computers for Everyone, as well as specific priorities for Daley, Science, and the LHS libraries. There was consensus that
inadequate technology and some facilities conditions are impeding our ability to do our jobs and fulfill the Library's responsibilities to the campus.

Steering agreed that the Library should spend about $250,000 for Computers for Everyone and $250,000 for facilities projects over the next 18 months. Library Systems will coordinate Computers for Everyone and Case and senior staff will work from the facilities priorities lists to initiate high priority projects.

6. The next meeting of Steering is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9. The topic is the Library's FY06 budget request and Case's presentation to the Provost, Vice Chancellors, etc.