Present: Nicholas Cutler (Computer Lab.), Stephen Dale (CSL/JCS Team), Sue Lambert (Moore),
Jim Thompson (Chemical Engineering), Niamh Tumelty (Engineering), David Wills (JCS Team,
Acting Chair), Joanne Farrant (JCS Team)

Apologies: Yvonne Nobis (Moore)

1. Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th May 2014 were accepted.

3. Matters arising

OUP deal. Joanne Farrant confirmed that the University had now signed up to this.

Invoice processing. Joanne informed the Committee that no further action had as yet been taken
in this regard as the proposal had met with differing levels of support across the Schools.

4. Matters of interest from the UL

Swets “crisis” – see under 7.

5. Open Access

David Wills drew the Committee’s attention to the recent email sent by Professor Lynn Gladden,
Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research, to all University of Cambridge research staff and students
concerning OA and REF eligibility. The HEFCE REF Open Access policy will affect articles
accepted for publication after March 2016 and the minimum requirement will be the deposit of the
manuscript in an open access repository within 3 months of acceptance.

David informed the Committee that a new Head of Scholarly Communication, had been appointed
and that Dr Danny Kingsley, currently at the Australian National University, would be taking up her
new role, including responsibility for Open Access, at the beginning of January 2015.
6. Funding

David confirmed that there was very little new needs money available for 2014/15, explaining that the Scheme had been running at an apparently healthy surplus for the past few years and that it was this surplus that was used to fund new needs for the financial years 2012/13 and 2013/14. At the end of the FY 2013/14 the surplus stood at approximately £900,000. However, if journal prices continue to increase at the same rate as over the last three or four years the Scheme was projected to be in deficit come FY 2017/18 and this would be in breach of the guidelines for managing an administered fund. It also remained to be seen what impact Open Access and the demise of Swets would have. Therefore, it was necessary to be prudent and to avoid going into deficit.

David reported that the 2014 Planning Round submission was due in December. The University Librarian and the JCS Co-ordinators had not yet had chance to meet with the Library’s Finance Manager to discuss the submission and whether there was any scope for applying for additional funds.

David stated that, due to an underspend overall last financial year, there was a small amount of funding, approximately £9,500, available for new needs across the Scheme this year. Otherwise the cost of new subscriptions would have to be met from cancellations. Niamh Tumelty noted that it was difficult to tell from the list of subscriptions maintained on the JCS web pages which titles were in bundles, were core titles, could or could not be cancelled etc. Joanne told the Committee that the JCS Team aspired to implementing a rolling programme of cancellations, whereby the JCS Team would put forward suggestions for cancellation, but that this was not possible with current staff resources. David reiterated that, despite the lack of funding, new recommendations should continue to be prioritized and a list of urgent requirements drawn up for consideration by the Steering Committee.

7. Swets

Joanne gave an update on the situation regarding Swets. Swets going into administration meant that approximately 3,000 subscriptions across the Scheme needed to be moved to other subscription agents. Following consultation with the Library Category Manager at the central Finance Division and language specialists in the main UL the JCS Team had started moving UL JCS subscriptions to suppliers within the relevant countries of publications. This was felt to present less of a risk than moving everything to one supplier. The JCS Team had also agreed to move the subscriptions for twenty plus faculty/departmental libraries. It was noted that identifying gaps, reconciling invoices and credit notes etc. would also entail a significant amount of work and that it would be at least a few months before it became clear what we owed Swets/they owed us. Fortunately, no pre-payments had been made this year. Members of the Committee wished to record their thanks to the JCS Team for their handling of the crisis.

8. Recommendations

(i) New titles

A consolidated list of recommendations (Paper 14-9) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

After some discussion it was agreed that the following two titles were top priority and should, therefore, be put forward to the Steering Committee for consideration for purchase from the central reserve.

The Design Society papers (£1,380)
International journal of sustainable engineering (£443)
Niamh informed the Committee that there would be a trial of the bioengineering section of JoVE in the Department of Engineering for one week in November and suggested delaying making a decision about this until after the trial.

It was also noted that the field of robotics was increasing in importance within the University and that related titles should be reconsidered at the next round of meetings.

(ii) CSL – converting print/print+online to online only

Stephen Dale reported that the Central Science Library was due to close in Summer 2015 and that this was expected to lead to problems with regards the storage of print journals. That being the case, the proposal was made to convert existing subscriptions, where possible, to online only as detailed in Paper 14-10. There were no objections.

9. Vacancy for Chair of Consultative Committee for Technology

The following were noted:

- Professor Dowling was on sabbatical leave and, as a result, there was a vacancy for an academic representative from the Department of Engineering
- there was some uncertainty as to whether Dr Markus Kuhn from the Computer Laboratory had been asked to sit on this Consultative Committee as well as on the Steering Committee
- Jim Thompson’s imminent retirement would result in a vacancy for a representative from Chemical Engineering.

It was suggested and agreed, having taken account of the above, that this matter be carried over to the Lent meeting.

10. Dates of the next meetings

Wednesday 25th February 2015, 10.30a.m., Milstein Seminar Rooms, UL
Thursday 28th May 2015, 10.30a.m., Milstein Seminar Rooms, UL

11. Any other business

There was no further business.