

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Weinberg Memorial Library
Monday, May 9, 2022

The meeting came to order at 11:34 a.m., via Zoom Conference Meeting by Dr. Marian Farrell.

Present: Dean George Aulisio, Prof. Kelly Banyas, Dr. Deborah Budash, Dr. Marzia Caporale, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Dr. Tracey Collins, Dr. Bryan Crable, Dr. Darryl DeMarzio, Ms. Sharon Finnerty, Dr. Terri Freeman-Smith, Prof. Michael Knies, Associate Dean Jean Lenville, Dr. Wendy Mannetti, Prof. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. Robert McCloskey, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Prof. Ian O'Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kimberly Pavlick, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Prof. Donna Witek, and Dr. John Zych.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Lori Bruch, Prof. Colleen Farry, Dr. Michael Fennie, Dr. Christopher Fremaux, Mr. Eugeniu Grigorescu, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Dr. Barry Kuhle, Dr. Michael Landrum, Dr. Nathan Lefler, Dr. Yibai Li, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Ms. Vrutti Patel, Dr. Adam Pratt, Dr. Robert Shaffern, Atty. Jason Shrive, Dr. Argyrios Varonides, Ms. Keyri Villegas-saenz, and Dr. Ben Willis.

Dr. Miller motioned to approve the minutes, Dr. Bruch seconded by. The minutes were accepted as written.

DEAN'S REPORT – Dean George Aulisio

1. Budget Update

An increase in the budget was asked for but it seems we will remain flat, which is not good for inflationary rates. On a positive note, the Library does not need to make budget cuts like some other areas on campus need to do. At this moment, with the transition happening, a letter to Administration is not necessary. He will reach back out to the committee for recommendations if the need arises.

The insurance money from the flood has not come in yet. George will share more information as he receives it.

2. Library Positions

Library positions have mostly been frozen. There may be possibility for part-time or adjunct positions to bridge the gap while we wait to hire. There may be some changes to services, especially over the summer. Ian O'Hara will report on the R&I Librarian search. There is hesitation to take PT positions for fear we will lose FT positions long term. There have been no eliminations to current staff positions.

Dr. Bruch asked how will no budget increases and the hiring freeze impact services, as well as Library faculty and staff fatigue. Dean Aulisio will share those issues with the Provost and Interim Provost at their next meeting. As of right now these issues will mostly cut resources and not cut services. MISO survey results showed there are expectations that services will remain where they were before the pandemic.

3. Prof. Kelly Banyas's Last Day
Prof. Banyas's last day is Friday, May 27th. She has accepted a position at Washington College in M.D. Her accomplishments in the Library were numerous and she will be missed.
4. Summer Department Chairperson
Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh is going on a summer sabbatical May 21st through August 21st, 2022. In the interim, Prof. Donna Witek will take on the Interim Department Chairperson role. If you have any FSCC forms send them to Prof. Witek.
5. Summer Staffing Plans
Due to unfilled faculty positions, Prof. Witek and Prof. O'Hara are the only faculty on staff for the summer. Dean Aulisio proposed in-person research services appts. will be by Zoom or in-person appt. only. 24/7 Ask-a-Librarian chat is available – www.scranton.edu/askalibrarian.
6. 30th Anniversary Event Reminder
Friday, May 13th, 2022 from 4-7 the rededication of the Heritage Room in honor of Dean Emeritus Charles Kratz. He will be in attendance. Please come after the Faculty Senate meeting.

OTHER REPORTS:

1. R&I Librarian for Business (Prof. O'Hara)
The search for the Research and Instruction Librarian for Business was successful and Prof. Kate Cummings will join us in July. The exact date is currently unknown. In addition to her masters of Library & Information Sciences, she also holds a MBA from Wilkes and a bachelor's degree in Accounting from the University of Maine. She has teaching experience as well.

The Search Committee and Library Advisory representatives who met with the candidates were thanked.

2. Collection Development Subcommittee (Prof. Orner)

She shared the current collection development model which stated 85% of all library funds are tied to subscriptions. On average subscription costs increase at approximately 4-5% each year. If we do have level funding for the next 5 years, most departments will be unable to support their current subscriptions in the coming year. Given the interdisciplinary nature of many of our databases and journal packages, it is more equitable to share these costs than to have individual departments assume them.

Current collection development trends are moving away from allocation models in favor of more flexible models that divide the budget into subscriptions and monographs. A shared costs model would eliminate the need for departments to support interdisciplinary databases and journal packages and the Library would have additional flexibility to consider resources.

We can still allocate funds for monographs via our original allocation formulas so that departments still have an opportunity to continue developing collection supporting their disciplines.

The Collection Development Subcommittee proposes dividing the 2022-23 Library Materials Budget into two funds: 85% to subscriptions and 15% to monographs and standing orders. The monograph and standing order funds will be allocated to departments via our current allocation formula, and the Library will maintain the subscription fund. This will alleviate departments having to make decisions about cuts.

Dr. Farrell wonders if the Board of Trustees is aware of the impact of no budget increase, especially because they are supporting new programs. Dean Aulisio stated that he prepares a report and the Provost speaks on our behalf. He will emphasize it to Interim Provost Maldonado. Dr. Bruch added that Dr. Willis is on a Board subcommittee which may be one way to get information to the Board. Dean Aulisio will speak to Dr. Willis about the subject.

MOTION – Dr. Pavlick made a motion to accept the new budgetary proposal presented to the Library Advisory Committee for the new budgeting process. Dr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

3. Iron Mountain Update (Prof. Cloutier)

Dean Aulisio put in request to recall the first shipment of Iron Mountain books. Our plan stems from the meticulous document that Profs. Cloutier and Orner and the Technical Services staff put together. Most titles are available through PALCI Easy Borrow or online.

Dean Aulisio will send out the list of reclaimed titles. Decisions on retaining any of the books is due May 30, 2022. Anything not reclaimed will go to Better World Books. Email any questions to Prof. Cloutier.

Dean Aulisio stated that we will save 5K a year.

4. Affordable Learning (Prof. Cloutier)

4 applications were received for the fall for the fall semester. The judging panel will meet on May 11, 2022 to review applications.

5. Library Research Prize (Prof. Witek)

Judging has concluded for the 2021-2022 awards cycle. Record number of total submissions – 42 applications. She thanked the 3 judging panels. There were 11 total judges. 10 of the 11 are Library Advisory members. She announced the winners. The prize reception is Thursday, May 12 at 2:30 pm in the Heritage Room.

6. Remembering Blackness (Prof. Farry)

Dean Aulisio reported on behalf of Prof. Farry that Colleen. The Library's subcommittee is putting in a lot of work and the recent student presentation was spectacular. Prof. Farry will give a more detailed report in the future.

Misc. – Dean Aulisio reached out to Dean Emeritus Kratz about Java City revenue back to the Library, and was told that it was only through the first 1-3 years. He doesn't believe it's possible to ask right now, but if the new market in the building does well we can go back and ask them if a percentage is a possibility.

NEW BUSINESS (ALL):

There was no new business discussed.

Dr. Bruch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Miller.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

- Respectfully submitted by Kym Balthazar Fetsko