

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Weinberg Memorial Library
Monday, April 22, 2024

The meeting came to order at 11:35 a.m., by Dr. Marian Farrell.

Dr. Farrell congratulated Dean Aulisio for obtaining his Ph.D.

Present: Dean George Aulisio, Dr. Lori Bruch, Dr. Deborah Budash, Ms. Amanda Campbell, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Dr. Tracey Collins, Prof. Kate Cummings, Dr. Marian Farrell, Ms. Sharon Finnerty, Dr. Christopher Fremaux, Dr. Chris Gillett, Dr. JoyAnna Hopper, Dr. Jennifer Kaschak, Prof. Michael Knies, Associate Dean Jean Lenville, Dr. Wendy Mannetti, Prof. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Prof. Ian O’Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kimberly Pavlick, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Dr. Jong-Hyun Son, Dr. Ben Willis, Prof. Donna Witek, Prof. Elin Woods, and Dr. John Zych.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Anthony Betancourt, Dr. Roxana Curiel, Prof. Colleen Farry, Dr. Michael Fennie, Dr. Terri Freeman-Smith, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Dr. Michael Landrum, Dr. Nathan Lefler, Dr. Yibai Li, Dr. Robert McCloskey, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Atty. Jason Shrive, and Dr. Argyrios Varonides.

Prof. Witek motioned to accept the new agenda, seconded by Dr. Pavlick.

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

DEAN’S REPORT – Dean George Aulisio

1. Confirming L.A.C. membership for 2024-25

Dean Aulisio announced that Dr. Farrell is retiring at the end of this fiscal year. She had an integral role in the Library Advisory Committee as a strong advocate for the LAC and Faculty. She was thanked for her service. Dr. Farrell said a few words on the importance of the Committee and that commitment to the Committee is valued.

Dean Aulisio asked the committee membership to continue on the Committee. Everyone in attendance confirmed they would continue.

Dr. Miller volunteered to serve as Chair of the Library Advisory Committee. Dr. Willis motioned for an in-person election vote for next year’s chair. Dr. Pavlick seconded. None opposed. The quorum was met to hold the in-person election.

2. Election of the Chair of the L.A.C.

Prof. Markowski motioned to elect Dr. Miller. There was no second; however, none opposed the election of Dr. Miller as Chair.

3. Textbook Reserve

Student Government ran a survey among students regarding donating their used textbooks. Respondents were in favor of donating their textbook to the library to start a Textbook collection. A call to donate will go out for donations during finals week. Technical Services will organize this initiative into a suitable reserve collection. This is a pilot program. There is groundwork to cover such as contacting faculty to confirm they are still using the book in their class. We look at it as an affordable learning initiative. Excess books will be either sold, put in the book sale, or add it to the circulating collection. We will not return them to students.

The location for the textbook reserves will be where the reserves currently are. There will be a pre-printed form asking for the donor's information. Professors are not able to donate their instructor copies.

Loose-leaf textbooks will be accepted and put in binders.

4. Formation of a Subcommittee for Reviewing Electronic Reserves

There was a proposal to reclaim unused resource allocations which the Library then uses for interdisciplinary resources. The Dean proposed the formation of a standing subcommittee to meet annually to discuss electronic resources and review the total cost of resources, statistical data, etc.

Prof. Orner will Chair the subcommittee. Databases coming up for renewal will be reviewed and recommendations will be brought to Dean Aulisio. A call for volunteers to serve for the year will be sent during the next academic year.

Recommendations will be reported to the Library Advisory Committee for discussion with the entire LAC. There will be a mechanism within the subcommittee that will then be reported to different departments for feedback before collections are not renewed. Or an email to all faculty that will get the announcement of what might be cut.

At the first meeting of fall 2024, the list of upcoming databases up for renewal will be shared with the LAC to be brought back to respected departments requesting feedback. Prof. Orner will also include it as part of the letter to department chairs at the beginning of the year regarding collection development. The role of the subcommittee will be outlined by Dr. Miller and Prof. Orner and presented at the first meeting of FY25.

5. Thoughts on the Budget FY25

A 6% increase was requested for the Library budget to cover the cost of inflation. The Provost was supportive of the request but due to budget restraints the Dean does not expect to see a 6% increase to be funded. Dean Aulisio proposed withholding monograph allocation money in reserve to cover inflationary costs and to better plan for the spending of what is typically surplus funds.

Approximately \$100k of the \$180k monograph allocations was not spent this academic year. With more interdisciplinary electronic resources and more add-on deals like open access

publishing agreements, reallocating the allocation may be used toward planned acquisitions. Typically, because our hands are tied at the end of the year, surplus money is mostly spent on a large e-book package. This would allow for more options and potentially better spending of the library's acquisitions money.

The allocation formula will be run to determine which departments are spending their money and which are not, and decisions will be made accordingly.

Dr. Farrell suggested sending a letter to departments explaining potential allocation changes.

LIBRARY FACULTY REPORTS

1. Collection Development (Sylvia Orner)

a. Read and Publish Agreements vs. Springer E-Book Packages

Springer has been a great way to use surplus resources and traditionally the Springer e-book package has been a great way to spend the money and provide a lot of resources on a wide variety of topics. It is a year-to-year contract.

The Library has received a quote for a Read and Publish Agreement with Taylor & Francis. It's similar to journal packages but instead of paying money to be able to access their collections, we also spend a small amount for our faculty to publish open access with no additional fees to them.

There are benefits to both Springer and Taylor & Francis, but we can't do both with our current budget. Taylor and Francis is a 3-year agreement. Springer is year-to-year.

A decision must be made by May 31, 2024. The pro for Taylor & Francis is it supports open access publishing, and you get more journal titles, which supports students. The con is we lose 2024 Springer publications. The cost is about even for each.

Prof. Orner recommends continuing with Springer and then potentially picking up Taylor & Francis in January. Dr. Miller suggested continuing Springer for the students and then looking elsewhere for Taylor & Francis for faculty interests.

Recommendations included –

- Moving to Taylor & Francis and then reexamining where we're at in 3 years.
- Approaching the Friends for one and the Library picks up the other so that both can remain in use. Dean Aulisio does not believe the Friends could support that amount of funding.
- Using monograph money to cover specific titles.
- Do Springer this year, and if we do move to Taylor and Francis in January, discontinue Springer in the spring.
- At the next Library Faculty meeting the Librarians should weigh the options carefully and then email the LAC on what they would suggest regarding proceeding.

- b. Subcommittee Report [Document Attached]
There was a meeting with how the collection development works with new allocations for monographs. Policy/procedure documents were drafted based on that meeting. The formula was shared with the LAC via email.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION TABLED FOR FALL MEETING

- 2. Ed Lab Collection Audit (Sylvia Orner and Kate Cummings)
TABLED FOR FALL MEETING
- 3. Affordable Learning Grants (Kate Cummings)
 - a. Announcement & Call for Judges
Deadline is 4/26/24. Volunteers are needed to help review grants. A sign up sheet was sent around. The call will also be sent electronically.
- 4. Information Literacy / Library Research Prize Updates (Donna Witek)
 - a. IL Stipends Task Force Report [Document Attached]
TABLED FOR FALL MEETING
 - b. Bonnie W. Oldham Library Research Prize
The Spring deadline is Tuesday, May 7th, 2024, at 4 pm. Judging will take place that week. The awards ceremony is Friday, May 17th, 2024, at 1:00.
- 5. FOLIO Update / PALCI EZ-Borrow Downtime Notification (Marleen Cloutier / Jean Lenville)
The migration is ending. EZBorrow will be down for a period. In the interim, requests can be placed though ILL. May 21st is the go live day for Folio. Messaging will go out via the blog.
- 6. Scholarship Month Exhibit (Michael Knies)
Prof. Knies asked for submissions for the Faculty Scholarship Exhibit.

NEW BUSINESS (All)

There was no motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kym Balthazar Fetsko