

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Weinberg Memorial Library
Monday, February 16, 2024

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

Present: Dean George Aulisio, Dr. Anthony Betancourt, Dr. Deborah Budash, Ms. Amanda Campbell, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Prof. Kate Cummings, Dr. Marian Farrell, Prof. Colleen Farry, Ms. Sharon Finnerty, Dr. Chris Gillett, Dr. Jennifer Kaschak, Prof. Michael Knies, Associate Dean Jean Lenville, Dr. Wendy Mannetti, Prof. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. Robert McCloskey, Prof. Ian O'Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kimberly Pavlick, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Dr. Jong-Hyun Son, Dr. Ben Willis, and Prof. Elin Woods.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Lori Bruch, Dr. Tracey Collins, Dr. Roxana Curiel, Dr. Michael Fennie, Dr. Terri Freeman-Smith, Dr. Christopher Fremaux, Dr. JoyAnna Hopper, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Dr. Michael Landrum, Dr. Nathan Lefler, Dr. Yibai Li, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Atty. Jason Shrive, Dr. Argyrios Varonides, Prof. Donna Witek, and Dr. John Zych.

Dr. Pavlick motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Kaschak. The minutes were accepted as written.

Agenda revised. No motion to approve the revised agenda.

DEAN'S REPORT – Dean George Aulisio

1. Bylaws Subcommittee

Dean Aulisio and the committee recently met to discuss comments and suggestions that arose at the last Advisory meeting. The process of electing a chair and quorum numbers were discussed.

The Chair will be a full-time faculty member from outside the library elected by a majority vote to serve a two-year term. The call for nominations will be sent to all eligible Library Advisory Committee members two weeks before the last meeting of the Spring semester in the final year of the Chair's term. An electronic vote will be held within one week following the last meeting of the Spring semester.

Two options were presented regarding who is permitted to vote on a motion. Option 1 read that all current members, excluding the Dean and Assoc. Dean may vote on a motion. Option 2 states that only faculty and staff outside the Library may vote on a motion.

After some discussion, Dr. Pavlick motioned to adopt Option 1. Dr. Markowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was then additional discussion on the number wanted to constitute a quorum. A suggestion was made that if a quorum is absent, an electronic ballot on any motions brought to the meeting will be sent.

Prof. Pratt-McHugh motioned that when a vote is taken it should be $\frac{1}{2}$ of the voting membership plus 1 for the definition of a quorum. Dr. Kaschak seconded. Motion passes. Dr. McCloskey then added an amendment to the motion that a quorum be defined as more than half. Prof. Pratt-McHugh seconded. A vote will be moved to electronic voting if a quorum is not met.

It was felt that the chair of the Advisory Committee should be an existing member because they are familiar with the Committee's work. The term will be limited to 2 consecutive terms of 2 years.

Prof. Orner asked if it is appropriate to add that members of the Committee serve as the collection development liaison for their department. In the past, they were not coupled. This point will be revisited.

Dr. Willis motioned that we send out an electronic vote for acceptance or non-acceptance of the Library Advisory bylaws. Dr. Kaschak seconded.

2. Forming a Subcommittee on Collections Development Policies

A call for a subcommittee to investigate our current collection development model, changes to the models, or best practices was made. It is an opportunity to review recent changes. The committee will meet approx. twice; once in March and once at the beginning of April. A sign-up sheet was passed around. One person from each college and any Library faculty who wants to be involved is welcome. It would be helpful to have both undergrad and masters level professors.

3. Library Renovations, Including Library Services Desk, 2nd Floor, Solar Panels, and Lighting. Renovations to the Library Services Desk are on hold due to funding. Dean Aulisio met with Mr. Steinmetz and Dr. Maldonado and both agreed that the project should be investigated, especially because of accessibility issues. Hemmler & Camyd have been asked for plans. The initial cost of renovations is assumed to be more than \$400,000.

The Library directly funded and secured funding for automatic doors for Reilly and Pro Deo bathrooms. This work is complete.

The 2nd floor plan to add 8 or 9 group study rooms along the DeNaples side of the library building would involve reconfiguring the HVAC system, which means \$750,000 in invisible costs. Dean Aulisio suggested investigating a revised plan where group study room pods would be installed in the middle of the floor with the tables along the wall. The pods cost around \$40,000 each, so it is still a major undertaking, and there is currently no funding commitment. Pods do not need to be purchased all at once. The student representative confirmed that students desire more study room space on campus is needed.

We were not the successful candidate for the EBSCO solar project. We will reapply. The deadline to reapply for the grant is April 22, 2024. Whether or not we get the grant, Aulisio reported that facilities is prioritizing a phased multi-year project to retrofit all of the library lighting with LED fixtures.

4. History Month Activities

The library co-hosted the Black History Month film series once again. Changes may be made for next year regarding the number of events. A singular event rather than multiple may make it easier for students to attend.

The Library currently has a book and DVD display in the lobby. There is also a display in the Quiet Study Room on the 4th floor of social justice posters by Emmanuel Wisdom.

The Library is attempting to do as many heritage months as possible but cannot take them all on.

LIBRARY FACULTY REPORTS

1. Information Literacy Program Updates (Dean Aulisio on behalf of Prof. Witek.)

The update on the Task Force to Transform and Improve Information Literacy Stipends is that the group, convened by Prof. Witek, is scheduled to meet for the first time on Monday, March 4, 2024. Members of the Committee include Prof. Witek, Dr. Miller, Dr. Bruch, Dr. Pavlick, Prof. Cummings, and Prof. O'Hara.

The charge is to review the Information Literacy Stipends initiative and make recommendations to the Dean of the Library about transforming, improving, and revitalizing this grant program in light of evolving curricular priorities at the University.

Bonnie W. Oldham Library Research Prize (Dean Aulisio on behalf of Prof. Witek.)

The prize recognizes excellence in student research projects from courses taught across all departments at the University; more details at <https://www.scranton.edu/libraryresearchprize>.

There are three \$500 prizes — Undergraduate Foundational: 100-level projects; Undergraduate Upper-level: 200- to 400-level projects; Graduate-level projects.

Please promote the three prizes to students in your courses and encourage your department colleagues to do so as well — an email to all course instructors with details will go out in April.

The application deadline for Intersession or Spring 2024 projects: Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

A reminder, we are piloting a later Intersession/Spring deadline this year to allow for more Spring courses to meaningfully participate. The Intersession/Spring 2024 deadline falls on the Tuesday of Study Week (the week before final exams.)

We need volunteers to serve on the three judging panels for the prize. It's an excellent service opportunity that contributes to recognizing excellence in student research. We are aiming for each judging panel to have one member from each college.

The judging will take place the week of May 7, 2024 (Study week / last week of classes.) A signup sheet was passed around.

This year's Awards Ceremony and Reception for the Prize will be Friday, May 17, 2024, at 1:00 pm in the Library's 5th floor Charles Kratz Scranton Heritage Room (which is also a new date and time — this is the Friday of the final exam week.)

Questions about either update can be sent to Donna Witek, Information Literacy Coordinator — donna.witek@scranton.edu.

2. Environmental Art Show (Prof. Cloutier)

The show will be exhibited April 15-24, 2024. It is in digital format as well as a physical event. The deadline is 3/28 for submissions and the theme is creating connections. Flyers were distributed. Email marleen.cloutier@scranton.edu with any questions.

3. DEIA Audit Site Visit (Prof. O'Hara)

Mr. Mark Puente, Associate Dean for Organizational Development, Diversity, and Inclusion at Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies, and DEIA consultant will make a site visit on April 16, 2024. He will send his report in June.

4. Affordable Learning Lightning Talks (Prof. Orner)

We are having Affordable Learning lightning talks on February 27, 2024, from 12-1 p.m. in the Heritage Room.

The deadline for grant proposals is April 26, 2024. Prof. Orner made a call for judges who will meet in late April or early May.

Dr. Willis is a recent recipient. He spoke on his experience with Affordable Learning. He was able to find resources to make learning affordable and fun.

5. Love My Data Week (Prof. Orner)

There is a display in the lobby of the building. The initiative started at the University of Michigan. Its focus is the significance of data and data research. We are hoping to partner with departments in data-related programs.

6. Connors Photographs Digital Collection (Prof. Farry)

Prof. Farry gave a presentation on the vast photographic collection that has taken over a decade to digitize. The 1st series is b/w negatives from 1966-2005. There are 23,166 photographic assignments and over 100k negative strips.

None of the assignment data is publicly available. There is a data remediation project to make assignment information available.

Prof. Farry demonstrated how to locate archival information. She also showed colorized versions of photographs.

Digital Services is working on a new exhibit featuring campus changes over time with an approximate mid-March launch date.

7. Scranton Stories Exhibit (Prof. Knies)

This is an exhibit consisting of portraits of Scrantonians made possible the NEH grant for Scranton Stories. There will be meet and greet with the Scranton Stories team and some of the interviewees on April 4, 2024.

8. Focus Groups - (Prof. Woods)

We are recruiting students from February 26 until March 8, 2024. The groups will commence in early April. Prof. Woods is working with Prof. Geri Barber and her graduate students. They also want to work with OSSS and Thrive for 1st years. The focus groups will be held in the Counseling Center.

NEW BUSINESS (All)

No motion to adjourn was made.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kym Balthazar Fetsko