

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Weinberg Memorial Library
Tuesday, November 25, 2025

The meeting came to order at 11:44 a.m., by Dr. Miller.

Present: Dean George Aulisio, Dr. Anthony Betancourt, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Prof. Kate Cummings, Mr. Phil Erb, Prof. Colleen Farry, Dr. Christopher Fremaux, Mr. Colin Gilmartin, Dr. JoyAnna Hopper, Dr. Jennifer Kaschak, Prof. Michael Knies, Prof. Margaret Lakomy, Dr. Michael Landram, Associate Dean Jean Lenville, Dr. Yibai Li, Prof. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. Robert McCloskey, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Prof. Ian O'Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kimberly Pavlick, Dr. Virginia Picchietti, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Dr. Paul Sampson, Dr. Jong-Hyun Son, Prof. Katorah Williams, Prof. Donna Witek, Dr. Patricia Wright, and Dr. John Zych.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Deborah Budash, Dr. Tracey Collins, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Dr. Samantha Scott, Dr. Argyrios Varonides, and Dr. Ben Willis

Dr. Kim Pavlick motioned to accept the new agenda, seconded by Dr. Paul Sampson.

Prof. Kate Cummings motioned to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2025, meeting, seconded by Prof. Bonnie Markowski. The minutes were accepted as written.

DEAN'S REPORT – Dean George Aulisio

1. MISO Survey

- a. Dean Aulisio announced that the Library, in collaboration with IT, will administer the campus-wide MISO (Measuring Information Service Outcomes) survey to students, staff, and faculty for feedback on the Library. It has been four years since the last survey was administered. The survey is expected to open on Thursday, February 19, and close on Monday, March 2. Faculty in attendance were encouraged to participate as the results help support planning, improvement efforts, and advocacy. The estimated completion time for the survey is approximately 13-20 minutes.

2. Renovations updates

- a. Media Center Renovation
 - i. The Media Center renovation is on track to begin demolition immediately after finals. The renovated space is expected to be open by the start of the spring semester and will include open student space and stationary DVD shelving. Minor delays (e.g., furniture) remain possible, but orders are in, and construction is scheduled.
- b. Library Services Desk & Lobby Renovation
 - i. Planning remains on track following recent meetings with architects and Facilities. This renovation is time-sensitive to ensure reopening by the start of

fall classes. The plan includes removing the current desk, creating a straight service desk, and reconfiguring the lobby to allow 24-hour pass-through access, improve accessibility, enhance the entry experience, and expand space both in the lobby and for materials behind the desk. The lobby is expected to be closed post-commencement through the start of fall semester, with library entry and circulation services routed through the Reilly Learning Commons entrance during the renovation. The naming ceremony will likely happen in Fall 2026; the space will be named **The Genevieve & James J. Zaydon, Sr., Esq. '39 Library Services Department** in honor of the donor's parents.

3. America magazine complimentary access

- a. Dean Aulisio reported that America Magazine (The Jesuit Review) has expanded access to allow all AJCU school members to register for free digital access using their University of Scranton email. Access instructions will be added to the library guides. To sign in, visit Americanmagazine.org and register under login using your Scranton email.

4. Basement Indexes and Abstracts proposal

- a. Dean Aulisio proposed recycling as many print indexes and abstracts as possible from the basement rolling shelves to reduce unsafe overloading and prevent ongoing maintenance issues (materials falling, shelves requiring repair). Many titles are outdated and/or not listed in the catalog. Prof. Orner explained that some of the abstracts are available online, so print versions are not necessary to keep. The Dean asked members to share the list with their departments and provide feedback. The default proposal is to recycle items unless departments request retention. A revised, simplified list will be redistributed for departmental review.

5. AI Resources for the campus community

- a. Dean Aulisio opened a discussion on what role the Library and/or University should take regarding AI resources and AI-integrated discovery tools.
- b. Key points raised:
 - i. Some of our databases are utilizing AI automatically, and AI features are becoming increasingly embedded in vendor platforms (e.g., ProQuest), sometimes without local control to turn them off.
 1. ProQuest's AI feature was described as generating summaries to support research—not writing papers—but it introduces teaching/ethics issues (students may treat AI summaries as substitutable for their own work).
 - ii. Members emphasized the importance of AI literacy and consistent messaging across campus.
 - iii. Concerns were raised about equity (students who can't afford paid AI subscriptions may be disadvantaged) and environmental impacts.

- iv. A task force was proposed to facilitate a broader, representative conversation. Several members suggested a broader, representative conversation involving faculty governance and IT, given AI tools span beyond library resources (e.g., SPSS, NVivo, other software).
- v. Practical timing considerations were noted: given the week before Thanksgiving and end-of-semester workload, substantive work should likely begin in the spring.
- c. Next steps discussed (not finalized):
 - i. Gather departmental feedback early in the spring semester and dedicate focused agenda time at the first spring LAC meeting to advance recommendations.
 - ii. Consider whether this committee, TAG, ASC, or a hybrid group should lead the work.

6. IDEA Center (with Director Tom Bryan)

- a. Tom Bryan, Director of the IDEA Center (Innovation Design, Education Center), introduced the IDEA Center, located in Weiss Hall (first floor). Regular hours are approximately 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., with extended hours for events. He asked that LAC members talk to students and colleagues about the IDEA Center and ways to collaborate.
- b. Highlights of resources and capabilities:
 - i. 3D printing (resin and filament) for detailed objects and engineering prototypes
 - ii. Laser cutting and engraving (various materials)
 - iii. CNC equipment (water jet cutter, router, mill)
 - iv. Sewing/embroidery machines
 - v. Vinyl cutting/graphics production (stickers, decals, T-shirts)
 - vi. Podcast studio with professional audio/video equipment and online booking
 - vii. Collaborative space (worktables, lounge area), classroom and conference space
- c. Examples of collaborations:
 - i. Course projects (including dioramas displayed at the library)
 - ii. Small Business Development Center design challenges
 - iii. OT department projects (adapted toy buttons)
 - iv. Student clubs (branding items, T-shirts, stickers)
 - v. K–12 partnerships and additional community connections in development
- d. Upcoming invitations:
 - i. Faculty open house: Monday, December 8 (11 a.m.–1 p.m.) and Tuesday, December 9 (3–5 p.m.)
 - ii. A content creator convention is planned for October (next year) in partnership with Communication.

- e. Questions addressed:
 - i. Use of the IDEA Center is currently free for students.
 - ii. Space requests for meetings/events can be submitted via a form on the IDEA Center website.
 - iii. Committee members suggested additional campus partners; the committee requested that the slide deck be shared broadly.
 - iv. Dynamic because the role of the center is very broad, providing education and experiences to students, faculty, staff, and the broader community

LIBRARY FACULTY REPORTS

1. Electronic Resources Subcommittee Report (Prof. Sylvia Orner)
 - a. Prof. Orner reported on the Electronic Resources Subcommittee's work, including LAC volunteer participation (noted: Kate and John). The committee used a three-part process: subcommittee review, shared data report, and faculty feedback form distributed to departments. The subcommittee met on November 18 and issued recommendations in three categories: Keep, Keep for Now, and Discontinue.
 - b. Recommendations shared:
 - i. **Keep:** Academic Video Online; EBSCO eBook subscriptions; ProQuest eBooks; PsychArticles/PsycINFO; Simmons Catalyst
 - ii. **Keep for Now:** Biological Abstracts; Oxford Bibliographies Online; Oxford English Dictionary Online; ProQuest Central
 - iii. **Discontinue:** International Bibliography of Art; Nexis Uni; Victorian Literature; Oxford Reference Online; Royal Society of Chemistry Journals
 - c. Discussion topics:
 - i. Contract timing varies (calendar year vs. fiscal year). Most contracts run on the fiscal year, so there is enough lead time to decide on cancellations. Royal Society of Chemistry journals were noted as expiring at calendar year-end and recommended for discontinuation due to high-cost relative to low usage.
 - ii. Governance/communication: recommendations are advisory; final decisions rest with the Dean. Members recommended clear communication to the campus if cancellations occur, framing decisions as informed by LAC subcommittee review and faculty feedback, and pointing users to alternatives where applicable.
 - d. Dean Aulisio thanked the subcommittee for its work.
2. Mometrix Database (Sylvia Orner)

- a. Prof. Orner thanked the committee for earlier feedback and announced the library has subscribed to Mometrix test preparation resources. The resource is live in the library A–Z list, with additional student-facing promotion planned for spring.
3. Affordable Learning Grants Call For Judges (Prof. Sylvia Orner)
- a. The call for Affordable Learning Grants will be released soon (anticipated next week). Volunteers are needed to serve as judges; judging typically takes about 30 minutes, though there may be more applications this year. Faculty interested in judging were invited to contact Prof. Orner.
4. Information Literacy Updates (Prof. Donna Witek)
- a. Bonnie W. Oldham Library Research Prize Updates
 - i. Prof. Witek announced a procedural change: the student research prize will move from two annual deadlines (fall and spring) to a single deadline for the entire academic year.
 - 1. New deadline: Monday, May 11, 2026 (Study Week)
 - ii. Eligible work includes projects completed in: summer 2025, fall 2025, intersession 2026, and spring 2026.
 - iii. The application form will remain open all year, and promotion will be distributed campus-wide. A faculty support form is required for all submissions. A call for judges will be issued in the spring.
 - iv. This change responds to community feedback and aims to improve sustainability of administration.
 - b. IL CLOs Community of Practice
 - i. Tabled for spring meeting.
 - c. Ethics Across the Curriculum Workshop
 - i. Prof. Witek announced that a library team (Prof. Donna Witek, Prof. Kate Cummings, Prof. Ian O’Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, and Dean Aulisio) received funding from Ethics Across the Curriculum to develop and host a two-day faculty development workshop supporting the First-Year Digital Literacies attribute in the Ignatian Core Curriculum. This workshop will be for faculty who currently teach FYDT courses, and AI literacy will be included among the workshop themes. The workshop is anticipated for late summer 2026 (or early fall).

NEW BUSINESS (All)

No additional new business was raised. A brief request was made for library faculty to remain after adjournment for a short internal question.

Motions to adjourn were not recorded.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cassandra Wisdo