MINUTES
University Library Committee
Tuesday, September 15, 2015
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Memorial Library Room 362
Minutes prepared by Julie Arensdorf

Attendees

Voting Members

Faculty
- Yang Bai, Physics
- Sabine Gross, German
- Daniel Klingenberg, Chemical and Biological Engineering
- Mary Trotter, Theatre & Drama

Academic Staff
- Ron Harris, English
- Carol Pech, School of Medicine & Public Health

University Staff
- Darcy Little, Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies
- Joan Weckmueller, IT/Academic Technology

Students
- Sean Owczarek
- Martin Rakacolli

Non-Voting Members
- Julie Arensdorf, Memorial Library
- Bonnie Shucha, on behalf of Steven Barkan (LCC Liaison), Director, Law Library
- Phillip Braithwaite, Budget, Planning & Analysis
- Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries
- Carrie Nelson, College Library

Also Present
- Deborah Helman, LCC, Wendt
- Lee Konrad, GLS, Library Exec Group
- Anna Lewis, LCC, MERIT
- Lesley Moyo, GLS, Library Exec Group
- Jean Ruenger-Hanson, LCC, Steenbock
- Natasha Veeser, GLS, LCC
- Doug Way, GLS, Library Exec Group
Welcome and Introductions

Ed Van Gemert: There are two academic library staff elected to the committee. Carrie Nelson is in her second year on the committee. We've changed this so the second-year library staff member will help the Vice Provost for the Libraries develop the agenda. It will be the role of the first-year library staff member (Julie Arensdorf) to take minutes and distribute drafts of the minutes before meetings.

All committee members introduced themselves and shared their affiliations and responsibilities.

Go Big Read
Ed: The Go Big Read book for 2015-2016 is *Just Mercy*. The author, Bryan Stevenson, will be speaking October 26th at 7:00pm in Union South Varsity Hall. Will also be video-streamed, and will probably require overflow space for event. We've had to order 15,000 copies this year—the reception has been exceptional. Over 165 classes have incorporated the book into their work this semester already (last year it was 175 classes over the course of the academic year).

Libraries Magazine
Ed: Very proud of the Fall Libraries Magazine. Interesting articles, professional design and writing, and content begins to capture the evolving relationship between the Friends, the Libraries, and Development. We’re getting better at telling the story of the Libraries on campus. Of note: Shakespeare First Folio will be on campus in November of 2016.

Library Security
Ed: Saturday evening July 4, 2015, everyone is away from campus, and I received a phone call of an active shooter in College Library. Police handled it well; it turned out to be a hoax. Afterward, Staff held a debriefing with the police, and are currently in the process of security trainings for library staff. Security is an important issue in the Libraries and on campus. Wanted committee to be aware of the issue, and would like to track back on this issue in the future. In the U.S., these incidents often happen in libraries.

Future Meetings
Dates for ULC meetings for the rest of the semester are:
Monday, October 19th 11am-12pm
Monday, November 16th 3-4pm
Monday, December 14th 2-3pm

Agenda Addition
Proposed FP&P Chapter 6 Revisions (roles of the ULC are described here)

Election of the Committee Chair

Dan Klingenberg offered to stand for elections for committee chair, but will happily open the election to other candidates. No other volunteers.

ULC Committee Chair Vote:
Multiple audible ayes
None opposed
No abstentions
Dan Klingenberg will act as chair of the University Library Committee for 2015-2016.

Ed: Would like to entertain the idea of electing a chair during the final meeting of the semester so that Ed can have contact with the chair. Would also like to consider a chair-elect, to push out the responsibility of the committee to the committee, instead of the Vice-Provost for Libraries. Several committee members agreed this was a good idea.

**Brief Review of ULC Role**

Dan: I would like to review the charge of this committee:

*The University Library Committee reviews, consults and advises on, plans for, and receives reports and recommendations on the performance of library services, automation, budget, administrative structure, and allocation of resources. It is responsible for keeping the faculty informed of major issues and for creating opportunities for the faculty to discuss priorities (see Faculty Policies & Procedures 6.46.B).*

From: [https://www.library.wisc.edu/about/university-library-committee/](https://www.library.wisc.edu/about/university-library-committee/)

Dan: This committee has the responsibility of keeping the faculty informed of major issues, which will probably be a bigger issue this year with consolidation of the libraries. When I joined the committee this wasn’t clear, so I wanted to review.

**Approval of ULC minutes from May 12, 2015**

Mary Trotter: It’s not necessary to vote on minutes.

May minutes were approved with no suggested changes.

**Overview of Campus Libraries Roles and Activities**

Dan: For new committee members and with library consolidation coming up, I wanted to review campus libraries roles and activities.

Lesley: [Provided handout of Campus Libraries Roles and Activities.] Provides a general overview for those who are not familiar with the administrative structure.

There are three main categories of libraries:

- General Library System (16 libraries), report through Ed
- Professional Libraries, which support specific schools/programs, such as Ebling (Health Sciences: Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy), Wendt (Engineering), MERIT (Education), Law
- Others are more difficult to define: reading rooms, resource centers, etc.

In total, we have approximately 42 libraries, though they’re not all accurately called “libraries.” We try as much as possible to provide students with a seamless experience across libraries, but with the current decentralized structure, this provides challenges. We do have a strategic plan which
has been adopted campus-wide which will assist, but currently users encounter different approaches at each location.

Statistics (mostly relevant to the first two categories, though all libraries have items in our catalog):

- Over 380,000 circulation transactions annually (Ed: Recently was 1 million - changing usage of print)
- ILL is very high even at national level (pulled from Association of Research Libraries statistics), both for requests that we provide to other libraries and requests that we receive from other libraries
- Approximately 2,300 instruction sessions annually reaching over 32,000 students
  - Dan: Could you give an example of what some of the more common classes are?
  - Lesley: Communication A requires a library session, online tutorials
- Electronic usage – we are responsible for providing access to over 1400 online databases, and these databases require curation and maintenance to be readily accessible and usable
  - In just ONE DAY, just within the top 30 databases, over 13,000 user sessions, accounts for over 773,000 web page requests
- Also provide virtual support to users through online chat – approx. 6500 transactions each year
- Collections: over 9.5 million print volumes more than 7 million in other formats. Of those:
  - Over 1.1 million electronic books
  - Our Collections budget (campus budget) is over $12 million
  - Overall budget is relatively high compared to peers, though our collection budget is significantly low compared to other CIC libraries
    - Carol Pech: Where are we in relation to the CIC?
    - Doug Way: Only Nebraska and Maryland are below us in the CIC, but Nebraska doesn’t have a medical school, and this year Maryland dipped below us because they had budget cuts
    - Ed: We’ve got to make improvement in this area. Whatever we can do as a University Library Committee to improve this situation, I hope that we can focus our efforts there. It’s a big part of the consolidation report and our efforts moving forward.
    - Doug: We’re about 4 million below the average of the CIC schools, and about 12-14 million dollars below Michigan.
    - Ed: From a dollar-to-dollar comparison, I like to use Minnesota. Our research capacity is not the same, but from where they were a few years ago, it’s really pretty remarkable.

Lesley (continuing review of campus libraries roles and activities):

- We have 445 languages represented in our collections
- Technology is integral to the campus structure
  - Our website is second only to the University website in terms of usage, and represents a window to our resources
  - In 2014 the Library website emerged as the 3rd most important website for students (Second to UW-Madison website [www.wisc.edu](http://www.wisc.edu) and learning management system)
• Global usage of our digital collections is around 10 million uses
• Currently engaging in campus-wide conversations about data management and curation, the digital learning ecosystem, and Unizen
  o Lee Konrad: We’re always looking for ways to integrate our collections ad services into the campus environment
• Recently migrated from Voyager to Alma, our new integrated library system, which we share with the UW System, but is led by UW-Madison
• In our spaces, we partner with many educational innovation and teaching & learning initiatives. For example:
  o WiscCEL in College Library and Wendt Commons
  o BioCommons in Steenbock Library collaborative space for Biological science students across campus
  o Design Lab in College Library – integrating design objects into curriculum
  o Media Studios in College Library – integrating various media into learning
  o Business library working with Business school to develop collaborative space for teaching & learning needs in the business environment
  o Developing a graduate student space in Memorial Library; by the end of June next year, it should be finished
  o Multipurpose Room in Memorial 22—collaborative space, presentation practice space, undergraduate students and others are primary audience
  o Other spaces are being explored as we move forward with consolidation:
    ▪ Low-use print journals being moved to off-site storage – the space they formerly occupied is being re-envisioned to support active learning and student collaboration
• We are moving away from a time when delivering library services was space-bound; we’re moving toward virtual delivery of services and mobile resources that can be accessed by users in any location at any time. Our strategic framework, adopted at the campus-level, was used to frame this. UW-Madison Libraries: A Vision for Knowledge Through 2020 is available on the website.

There were no further questions.

Consolidation Report

Ed: Let’s review the process first: At the final ULC meeting last spring, we outlined a process for introducing, reviewing, and sharing the report. I think the purpose today is to introduce the report. I was hoping we could review feedback in our October meeting. In the email I sent there is also a link to a survey where we’re collecting feedback on the report, though we’ll certainly take your comments here as well in October. There are two public sessions scheduled September 30 and October 8. We envision taking input at those discussions. Also shared the report with shared governance units: University Staff, ASM, Academic Staff Assembly, Faculty Senate, and University Committee

Ed: Would like to come back to the University Library Committee in November with a report that we could then send on to the Provost.
Ed: Lesley Moyo, Phillip, Natasha Veeser, and Deborah Helman were all on the Consolidation Working Group. Some of the comments from staff who have seen the report have been that there’s no ‘ah ha’ moment: there’s no date at which we’re actually going to DO something. The word ‘consolidation’ has taken on a number of derogatory connotations. The way I read this report, it’s really more about re-envisioning how we provide services in the future and what a modern 20th century library looks like. Undoubtedly the budget reductions play into this, but even without those challenges, we should be looking at some of these changes. There are a number of schools and colleges that are already beginning down this road, for example with the Chemistry Library (a success story), Business, Engineering, Geography. To give specific dates when you need to have discussions with academic departments and incorporate facilities planning and management is really not possible. So that’s why this report calls for the formation of an implementation team.

Ed: We came up with 3 library groups:

- Group 1: Ready for consolidation implementation
- Group 2: Needs more consideration
- Group 3: Libraries and reading rooms that don’t make sense to work with immediately; maybe later, but not now

I talk about a 3-5-year window. Success with consolidation is going to require two things: 1) focused attention and leadership on implementing the recommendations, and 2) must make an improvement in the reinvestment in the libraries on this campus (ULC Committee can help with this). Print use is declining, the notion of consolidating print makes a lot of sense; shared print storage for journals makes a lot of sense. Importance of community in these spaces (interaction between faculty and students), and the presence of the academic librarian in the space of the academic department for instruction, guidance, facilitation of use of electronic resources, and liaison services. Academic departments have the ability to think about repurposing the space for what they need, but they don’t have the financial resources (neither do we). That’s why we can’t give a date for implementation.

Ed: This requires flexibility as we move along. The outcome of the discussions though, is an implementation plan. When we think about the cost of services and specialized services, we need to focus our investment on the group of Campus Libraries listed in the report. We also need to support the formation of a unified administrative team. We’re being asked to reduce staff, so we can’t be thinking in a siloed fashion. Last recommendation: Seek assistance from Campus for reinvestment in the libraries to supplement the collections budget. Most of our investment goes to electronic resources, but we need to continue to support the arts and humanities and area studies (print collections).

This is more than a consolidation—this is a blueprint. I will seek an endorsement from the University Library Committee before going forward with this report.

Mary Trotter: I congratulate the committee that worked on the report. One thing implied is the anxiety that consolidation means reduction. Consolidation brings the fear that books are going to be sold. Am I correct in assuming that this reduction means fewer places where the books are located, but funding for buying more texts—both digital and print—is still a priority?

Ed: Unique collections (Special Collections, Kohler Art Library, Archives) will still be a priority. We’re not going to be known for the electronic resources we hold in common with our peer institutions. The “Holding History” event yesterday is a good example of the student, and scholar and public use I see in the future. There will still be active collections.
Mary: The collections will still be accessible? They're not being sold?

Ed: Yeah. We try not to paint a picture of retrenchment. We try to ask what are the services that you need, and then incorporate those into a new service delivery model. I've been reminded not to discount the amount of anxiety that is triggered by the period we've been through and consolidation. The report is admittedly dense. We try to give examples of staff roles in the future.

Carol Pech: I noticed that both of the open listening sessions are here in Memorial. It would be nice to have one on the west side of campus. It's difficult for people in the health sciences campus to participate in shared governance for this reason. Another comment I have after an initial reading of the draft, is that I didn't see a lot of context that this is consistent with best practices with where libraries are moving toward in the 21st Century. A little more context would help this not be just in response to budget cuts. Rather, this is where our peers are heading too, as opposed to this is just us.

Ed: The language in the report tries to emphasize services over budget. There aren't a lot of places around the country that have 42 locations, so we're late to that game. But there are certainly a lot of best practices out there.

Ron Harris: I agree. The report looks like when we're done, there will still be 42 locations, just categorized into Campus Libraries and Resource Centers.

Ed: There are Campus Libraries that will still be consolidated. It's a snapshot in time of where we are now. Those discussions are yet to occur as to what that will look like in implementation. We will not have 42 locations.

Ron: Will I learn that from reading the report?

Ed: You will not learn that from reading the report.

Ron: I think you need to add that.

**How Should We Proceed to Ensure Appropriate Governance Involvement?**

Dan Klingenberg: Ron, your item?

Ron Harris: We can talk about that in October. There's no rush. The Faculty Senate is busy – I would leave off procedures for this month.

**Proposed FP&P Revisions**

**Adjourn**

Mary Trotter: Move to adjourn

Dan: I second

Meeting was adjourned 3:01pm