

University Libraries Committee Minutes

Zoom Meeting

June 19, 2020

1:55pm-3:50pm

Members Present: Angelos Barmpoutis, Richard Hill, Jane O’Connell, Czerne Reid, Melody Royster, Perry Collins, Judith Russell

Also Present: Lela Johnson (taking the minutes), Sylvain Doré (Guest)

Members Absent: Valentina Contesse, Raminder Kaur, Mario Poceski, Eric Potsdam, Mark Ritenour, Christine Voigt

The meeting commenced at 1:58 pm

Minutes Approval – The May minutes were approved.

Diversity, Equality & Inclusion Resources & Education Discussion

- Thinking ahead about education on racism in academia and how we can improve ourselves.
 - Example: online resources such as the University Press of Florida publications on the latest subjects free of charge.
- As a library committee, can we brainstorm to get resources together to promote publications:
 - By UF authors on relevant topics
 - Books that highlight topics related to systemic racism in Florida
- The library does a good job of getting these resources together, but the library communications office and library liaisons can do more to make the information visible..
- A recent “UF at Work” email highlighted 10 of best-selling books, including one by a UF author.
- Identifying relevant open access resources by UF authors was discussed during the DEI committee discussion last week: <https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/deicommitee/home>
- The library can request that links and information also be added when they do the new faculty orientations.
- The library liaisons bring information to departmental chairs to get that information disseminated to their respective departments. They also work with graduate students in various departments and colleges.
- The new Faculty Senate Chair, Sylvain Dore, gave an update of his efforts in Tigert Hall.
 - A request was made to add books about diversity to their bookshelves so people can come and take them.
 - He’d also like to set up a bookshelf in the new Faculty lounge containing works by UF authors.
 - Suggested getting a newsletter from the library, so people can see what work the library is doing.

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- The Law Library is working on incorporating diversity and race issues throughout the curriculum. It is unclear if this movement will gain traction throughout the institution, but they have been doing a lot of research and pulling literature together.
- Question: What are we doing to try to help the students coming in from various backgrounds? Are we addressing their needs, and have we asked them what their needs even are?
 - A Student Success Librarian has been hired, and she has started working already, although remotely. Her entire focus is to work throughout the libraries and across campus to identify specific appropriate outreach to student groups of different ethnicities and backgrounds.
 - Normally during summer B the libraries have several outreach activities with additional activities in the fall, such as the fall festival that was held last fall at the Reitz Union. Discussions about what the substitutes could be for those activities are ongoing, as well as how the libraries can participate in a campus-wide virtual fall festival.
 - There is a team in the library working on outreach to various types of student groups as well as some of the more generic outreach, and they are looking to replace the fall festival with a day that focuses on each library like perhaps a scavenger hunt or some other interactive activity.
 - Working on the way to work with freshmen who may be starting classes remotely, perhaps we can mail them something like a tee shirt or something else to make them feel welcomed by the Libraries.
 - The Law Library will update more about what they are doing at another time.
 - Calendars are being created to highlight information/events <https://ufl.libcal.com/calendar?cid=13142>; feel free to circulate. If resources are available/found in ULC members' respective areas and specializations, those can be shared with the library for inclusion.

UFOAP Monthly Update

- All funds have been exhausted for the Open Access Fund and it has been suspended.
- The application form should redirect inquiries to the main program page, which has a short announcement saying that the funds have been exhausted.
- Perry is wrapping up the summary reports and hopes to have a short report early next week similar to the one prepared for the deans.
- It was suggested that future funding could be a split cost:
 - ¼ budget coming from the provost
 - ¼ budget coming from the department
 - ¼ budget coming from the dean
 - ¼ budget coming from faculty/student doing the paperwork
- Open to funding discussions; the program is suspended until that time

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UF Author Rights Policy Discussion

- Design files have been received
- A website is being mocked up, taking into account the ULC feedback.
- Question: What is the call to action? There would be a preserved thought that someone would have to opt-in or opt-out at that time, in regards to the policy. Answer: The website is meant to be informational at this time, as the UF Author Rights Policy is something the Faculty Senate would have to approve. Perhaps the call to action at this time could be just gathering feedback on the publication and website information. Maybe there could be a button for people to click to show their support.
- Perry will mock something up and have it available at the next meeting.
- Pulling conversations together to discuss issues/questions:
 - Dairy Journal author would be an excellent person to speak to
 - Grad students (does anyone have someone to suggest) – perhaps our graduate student(s) on the committee could do that.

Dean's Report

- Reopening the Library Discussion/Update
 - Provost Glover has received plans for reopening the library, which will be part of the University reopening plan presented to the Board of Governors. As a recap, the library will be reducing seating capacity to approximately 25%.
 - The library is still working on the process of allowing students into the library based on limited seating capacity.
 - Question: What about a people counter? Answer: All library buildings are currently equipped with software that counts people entering the building, and it has also been suggested to require GatorOne ID swipe in as there has been interest in knowing who is in the buildings. For example, if one of the smaller buildings has 100 seats when capacity is reached, the idea is that the next individual won't be permitted into the building at that time. There is also the thought that a text service notifying individuals that space is available could be used.
 - Provost Glover has also said that a tent could be put on the Plaza of the Americas with some sort of social distancing seating, where wifi would be available. The issue would be running power and securing it overnight.
 - The library has a large conference room in Smathers Library that could possibly be used as an overflow area or another study space for students. However, this space may have to be used for library employees returning to work in the fall to allow for 6 foot distancing between work areas.
 - Question: How about moving books and shelving out of the library? Answer: Moving books and shelving off-campus would be a substantial job in the way of time and expense.

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- The HSCL and Library West will be doing curbside pick up where individuals can order books through the online catalog after the books have been pulled & checked out, there will be certain hours during the day that they can be picked up. The items will be in a plastic bag with the patron's name on it.
- All due dates have been extended on books previously checked out.
- Course Reserves are being done digitally at this time; print circulation for course reserves is not possible since each check out requires a 72-hour embargo of books when returned.
- There is one self check out machine at MSL and one at Library West because that is where the most circulation is currently. The self check out machine at Marston is down at the time being; however, it is being replaced.
- Elsevier OA Project (launching July 1st)
 - Training on workflow next week
 - A press release will go out
 - Users automatically receive a discount for being a UF author
 - If the pilot is successful, the hope is the offer will be extended to all the other state universities

Additional Topics

- Faculty Senate Update by Sylvain Doré
 - The Faculty Senate welcomes constructive suggestions and ideas from faculty.
 - He has changed the Faculty Senate Agenda to have diversity as a standing topic.
 - Question: Are you asking about any specific type of input or just asking if anybody has anything they think relates to diversity, and then they can present? Answer: The goal is to have one or two speakers to give a brief talk about diversity. All subjects are welcome at this point.
 - There will be a series of Town Hall meetings, sponsored by the Faculty Senate. One example is they'd like to invite the University PD, Gainesville PD, and the Sherriff's Office to engage in a discussion about the climate with some UF faculty members of diversity. If anyone has an idea or suggestion for an facilitator to please let him know.
- There is a change.org petition circulating about renaming buildings on campus. President Fuchs sent out a message saying there will be efforts made to look at all the named buildings (old and new) and try to understand better why and how they were named. The Smathers Libraries was one of the buildings identified for consideration for renaming. The Smathers Libraries were named based on a donation from Senator George A. Smathers.
 - Question: In regards to buildings being named due to a donation, would the money have to be reimbursed if the name was changed? Answer: It is unclear at this time.

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- It was noted that the new PubMed doesn't seem to be functioning as well as the older version, and a question arose if the old version could be brought back. Judy is going to reach out to Melissa at the HSCL and see what type of feedback she has been getting from other faculty members.

Wrap-up

- The next ULC meeting is on July 23rd if it is needed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm