

University Libraries Committee Minutes

Zoom Meeting

October 26, 2020

9:35am-11:30am

Members Present: Angelos Barmpoutis (chair), Sarah Bartolomel, Nikolaus Bindi, Olivia Caillouet, Josepha Cheong, Wendy Dahl, Jonathan Edelmann (co-chair), Richard Hill, Roger Maioli, Jane O'Connell, Eric Potsdam, Czerne Reid, Paul Wassel, Perry Collins, Judith Russell, Laura Spears

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

Members Absent: Christine Voigt

The meeting commenced at 9:39am

Minutes Approval

- Motion to approve minutes; the motion was seconded and approved.

Artificial Intelligence Discussion

- There were 130 proposals submitted for consideration.
- Open calls for 100 new faculty positions
- The Dean of University Libraries shared the two AI Faculty position proposals submitted for the Smathers Libraries.
 - Training Position (to teach library staff about AI, so they can help students and faculty)
 - Data Structure & Software Position
- At the last Academic Dean's meeting Provost Glover shared that he would like to see more collaboration across campus, and DEI is a specific theme. The academic deans are reviewing the list of proposals to determine if there are areas where they can collaborate or not overlap.
- A committee member asked for more information about the commitment of a vision for AI for everyone. That statement reflects what we hear from the provost and others about how they want AI broadly and deeply embedded across the campus.
- The committee chair suggested that each college should have datasets as a useful resource. In response to the statement, the Dean of University Libraries informed the committee that the Data Science Program is involved. In addition, there is also a good working relationship with research computing.
- A student committee member asked what an AI specialist would do on a day to day basis? We envision this person assisting our liaison librarians in gathering knowledge on AI. The AI library faculty member would be part of the campus-wide team and could assist in connecting students or faculty members to the right individual.

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Free and Discounted Ways to Publish (<https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/openaccess>)

- Committee members discussed information found on the LibGuide emailed before the meeting.
- Perry Collins added that Chelsea Johnston manages the Journals Program at the libraries and mentions the Library Press at UF, which the libraries work closely with to bring their expertise in publishing.

Research & Scholarship/Infrastructure Council Meetings Update

- The committee chair shares that Keith Rambo is eager for the UF Authors Rights Policy Discussion at the upcoming meeting on November 6, 2020.

COVID-19 Discussion/Update

- Library West hours will increase starting November 1:
 - Monday-Thursday 8am-10pm
 - Friday 8am-5pm
 - Saturday Closed
 - Sunday 12pm-6pm
- Students found not complying with social distancing by moving chairs together or mask rules are approached by library staff or security office and asked to comply. The second time the same individual has to be reminded, they must show their UFID or leave. As a request from student affairs, anyone requested to leave for non-compliance is reported.
- The committee chair asked if there was any update on cleaning at the Marston Science Library, per a student member's question during our last meeting? The custodial staff is not expected to wipe down spaces every time a student gets up; their main focus is high contact areas like the elevators, restrooms, and doors. There are supplies around the library that students can use to clean up their own space. There is, however, in-depth cleaning in areas across campus where there was evidence through contact tracing of an exposed individual.
- A committee member asked if the library has received any feedback from any students. The library has not been given any direct feedback at this time. A student committee member confirmed that there had been no request for feedback—the only request for feedback was related to a COVID survey circulated in his department. The library dean said that she does have meetings with other UF deans, and she can bring it up and speak to Assessment Librarian Laura Spears to see what can be done in the libraries. Laura went on to say that there is a survey going out this week regarding study space related to COVID, and she will provide that feedback to the dean to share with the ULC Committee once the survey has concluded.
- A student committee member asked if there was a plan to re-open the group study rooms. The Dean of University Libraries answered that at this time, we are not considering re-opening group study rooms. Many of the group study rooms are housing chairs to open up room for social distancing in the libraries. Others are being used as

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office space for staff to comply with UF social distancing guidelines. She is willing to go back to Dr. Lauzardo to ask if anything has changed regarding group study rooms due to ventilation and airflow.

- The committee chair asked what the plan is for the libraries if more classes become face to face. The use of the libraries will continue to be monitored. Currently, not even 50% of capacity is being utilized with the existing hours. Data being collected does not show an absence of space at Library West, Marston Science Library, or the Health Science Center Library. If there is more pressure for more space in the spring, it will be discussed at that time.
- The faculty senate chair, Sylvain Dore suggested that perhaps discussions could be held with engineers about the building's airflow to decrease the 6 foot distancing to 4 feet, allowing for more seating in the libraries. The Dean of University Libraries said that was a question that could be brought to Dr. Lauzardo, and she will ask if there is any indication of a change.

UF Author Rights Policy Discussion

- Draft Website (<https://digitalpartnerships.uflib.ufl.edu/uf-author-rights-policy/>) was shared via email prior to the meeting. Committee members discussed the design and content briefly.
- Research & Scholarship Council Meeting Presentation on November 6 at noon.
- Faculty Council Chairs Meeting Presentation on November 19 at 2:15.
- Are we far enough along to present this to the Faculty Senate Presentation in December for a vote?
- Perry is open to feedback on how we'd like to do the roll-out of this communication.
- The committee co-chair asked if this policy addresses independent, often free, but sometimes paid websites. We have been cautious with this policy, not to mention where individuals should publish.
- Opt-in/Opt-Out Discussion
 - The chair asked if this topic will be included in upcoming presentations? This is a topic that will be discussed, and a question asked to the Faculty Council during the upcoming meeting and getting their feedback.
 - Committee members discussed preferences for opt-in or opt-out.
 - The Dean of University Libraries suggested that we discuss this further after the presentations.

Dean's Report – Judith Russell

- Electronic license renewals are almost all converted from academic year to calendar year.
- As mentioned in the last ULC meeting, licensing has been particularly challenging this year due to circumstances surrounding funding for the Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative (FALSC). FALSC is a service bureau funded by the state legislature that runs the libraries' online catalog and discovery services and several other services. This

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summer, the Governor vetoed funding for the Complete Florida Plus Program administered out to the University of West Florida. FALSC's funding was inadvertently vetoed as well since it reported through the Complete Florida Plus Program. FALSC is being moved from under the University of West Florida to Florida State University, under the Northwest Regional Data Center.

- In response to the budget situation, vendors have been asked, at a minimum, to give no pricing increases this year and next, and ideally, to roll back prices. The University of West Florida stopped handling contracts after the veto; UF has been handling the contracts until the Northwest Regional Data Center starts in December.
- So far, at UF alone, over a \$400,000 savings in the libraries' materials budget has been realized by getting various vendors to roll back pricing or at least agree to no pricing increases. This has been a considerable collaboration effort across the SUS.

Additional Topics

- None noted.

Wrap-up/Topics for November 30 meeting

- None noted

The meeting adjourned at 11:09am