

# University Libraries Committee Minutes

## Zoom Meeting

December 8, 2020

8:30am-10:25am

Members Present: Angelos Barmpoutis (chair), Sarah Bartolomel, Olivia Caillouet, Josepha Cheong, Wendy Dahl, Jane O'Connell, Perry Collins, Judith Russell, Christine Voigt

Also Present: Lela Johnson (taking the minutes)

Members Absent: Nikolaus Bindi, Jonathan Edelmann (co-chair), Richard Hill, Roger Maioli, Eric Potsdam, Czerne Reid, Laura Spears, Paul Wassel

The meeting commenced at 8:32 am

### Minutes Approval

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

### Research & Scholarship/Infrastructure Council Meetings Update

- Two meetings were held since the October ULC meeting.
  - Presentation of Authors Rights Policy by Perry Collins – Members gave some feedback.
  - ULC had a chance to discuss the topic further – got more in-depth feedback
    - Opt-in (seems to get the best feedback-authors don't feel like they are losing rights)
    - Opt-out (authors have concerns about automatically giving rights away)
    - Suggested giving a presentation to UFF (United Faculty of Florida) as well to get more feedback

### COVID-19 Discussion/Update

- The libraries will be maintaining current practices.
- Attendance has been low, averaging about 40% with some spikes of 60%-70% of capacity.
- January (Spring 2021) Changes
  - Security guards will no longer be contracted for library security. OPS employees will be hired to manage student compliance
  - Hours of operation will remain the same
  - Currently, policy & procedures will stay the same
  - Remote work agreements being renewed until May 2021
- Questions or Concerns?
  - The committee chair asked if there was an increase in the use of online resources. Dean of Libraries answered yes, as well as the use of "Ask-a-Librarian" services. The library is also seeing an increase in services such as Course Reserves in

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response to remote students' needs, which has been working very well. The library has invested in more ebooks than print books, which was already occurring but has increased since COVID. The libraries also continue to contribute to HathiTrust, as mentioned in past meetings.

- A committee member asked if there was a date when UF would decide on the percentage of in-person classes for spring 2021. How much time will the libraries need to prepare if there is an anticipated increase in the number of students on campus? Registration will continue through mid-December due to the late start with scheduling issues in setting up the spring schedule. At this time, the libraries have not seen any interim reports. There is an Academic Deans' meeting on Friday, December 10; hopefully, more will be known after that.

### UF Author Rights Policy Discussion

- Presentation at the Research & Scholarship Council meetings went well, as discussed earlier in this meeting.
- Perry Collins updates that she also presented at the Faculty Council Chairs & the Faculty Council of the College of Engineering meetings. Overall, she reports that the feedback has been positive.
- Discussions so far have been more explicitly about the opt-in versus opt-out overall.
- In moving forward, there are a couple more presentations with Angelos Barmpoutis and the College of the Arts and with Richard Hill and the College of Veterinary Medicine. Also, in January there will be a presentation with CLAS.
- Questions or Concerns?
  - The committee chair asked if, for example, UF has a consensus to adopt the opt-in policy; are there examples of other institutions who have opt-in and how easy it is to manage the logistics of that? Perry answered that she could not think of an institution that has an opt-in policy explicitly in the sense that we are discussing. However, MIT has an opt-out policy for faculty, but an opt-in policy for graduate students that will work much like we are thinking. That is a different kind of workflow, and it might not be comparable, but it's worth asking about and investigating.
  - Jane O'Connell asked if anyone has reached out to the College of Law? Perry said she would love some ideas of who she could talk to individually. She did talk to Frank LoMonte, who has a legal background and is on the Faculty Senate. It was decided that Jane & Perry would discuss this further as the law school publishes differently.

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- The committee chair asked if Perry would like him to schedule a meeting with the president of UFF (United Faculty of Florida) for a presentation at one of their upcoming meetings (January/February)? Perry answered that she thought it would be really helpful, especially now that the committee knows some of the questions and concerns that are likely to be asked and some of the other issues that may come up.

### Dean's Report – Judith Russell

- UF has released the budget planning guidance, and the libraries should be entering a flat budget this year. There is already a 2% cut in place because of the Governor's initial holdback of funds. A request has now been made to plan for the worst-case scenario, being an additional 5% cut. This would have a large impact on the library's materials budget as well as the salary budget.
- Open positions are being reviewed that we already have but have not been filled, such as the below:
  - Faculty position in the Latin American and Caribbean Collection, starting in January
  - Faculty position in the Baldwin Children's Literature Collection
- As discussed at previous meetings, there is no increase in the libraries' expenses with Elsevier since the new agreement began in July with a 7% reduction. Under this agreement, it also gives a 15% discount to corresponding authors automatically when they choose open access publishing in most of Elsevier's journals. It excludes Lancet & Self Press, which have high article processing charges for open access, and a few of their society journals. Generally, 10-15% of the articles published in Elsevier journals are open access. Library Administration is preparing to send acknowledgment messages to all the authors who chose open access with a brief survey. Messages will also be sent to authors who decided not to do open access, allowing them to change their mind-they will also be asked to complete a brief survey.
- Additionally, there has been an expansion in the number of journal families called Read and Publish Agreements, such as Cambridge University Press. At an additional cost, there is an automatic elimination of APCs for UF authors, which is being done with several societies, including Cambridge. There is a libguide that identifies all the various organizations with which we have memberships or other kinds of arrangements that either provide a discount or a waiver of open access fees.

### Additional Topics

- None noted

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**Wrap-up/Topics for spring 2021**

- Poll will be sent out to set up Spring meeting dates/times
- Topics for Spring
  - Budget Update
  - Read & Publish Agreement Update
  - Elsevier Update

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 am.