University Libraries Committee Minutes
March 22, 2023
9:35am – 11:30am

Members Present: Vandana Baweja (Co-Chair), Riya Chakraborty, Josepha Cheong (Chair), Wendy Dahl, Fletcher Durant, Jennifer McAninch, Jane O'Connell, Czerne Reid, Judith Russell, Rae Yan

Also Present: Hallie Mills (taking the minutes)

Members Absent: Katie Basinger-Ellis, Lynne Clark, Hilton Etienne, Melody Marino, Christine Myers, Anand Paul

The meeting commenced at 9:39 am.

Minutes Approval (February)
- The minutes for February were approved.

Research & Scholarship/Infrastructure Council Meetings Update
- At the Infrastructure Council meeting, Senior Associate Dean of Scholarly Resources & Services Patrick Reakes reported on the status of Library West after the flood in December. The Infrastructure Council discussed many of the topics covered in previous ULC meetings, such as how many volumes were lost, whether any specific subject areas were completely wiped out, whether any of the affected volumes were salvageable, and whether any of the volumes could be replaced with e-documents rather than physical copies.
- Subject specialists are reviewing the lost books to determine which are still in print, which can and should be replaced, which have e-versions, and which are readily available at other state universities or in other shared print programs in which the Smathers Libraries participate. The Libraries are planning to move forward with ordering as many of the available and desirable replacements as they can even though it is not yet known if they will receive insurance money or how much insurance money they will receive. If the Libraries receive the insurance money later, they can reimburse themselves and reallocate the money to other acquisitions.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) Feb. 2023 Meeting: Follow-Up on Academic Policy Council (APC) Approval of Recommended Syllabus Language for the Libraries
- The Co-Chair attended this meeting. The APC approved the ULC's request to include suggested, not required, language in each syllabus about librarian liaisons available to assist with the course content. This item was presented to the UCC in February. There was no discussion. The UCC was not required to vote.

Information Literacy Committee (ILC) Update
- The Co-Chair and ULC member Czerne Reid met with the ILC to create a strategy to promote information and library literacy. Their approach is two pronged: The first

is to approach Quest to request that Quest 1 and Quest 2 instructors incorporate information literacy as a student learning outcome. The second is the "Train the Trainer Model" for teaching assistants (TAs), in which TAs would be trained in information literacy so that they can then train students. The ULC-ILC taskforce has communicated with Alex Bitton-Bailey, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), who responded favorably to the idea of an information literacy track/certificate as part of the existing training programs they have for TAs. Library faculty are working to create the modules that would be incorporated into the TA programs. Once they are complete, the taskforce will decide where the modules will fit in the TA training programs.

- Dean Russell will invite someone from UFIT to present at the next ULC meeting in April to present to the committee on ChatGPT and address concerns about student use of ChatGPT. Dean Russell suggested that an AI specialist from the Smathers Libraries could also be invited to attend the next ULC meeting.
  - Several ULC members shared links related to ChatGPT:
    - https://marginalrevolution.com/marginalrevolution/2023/03/gpt-4.html
    - https://gptzero.me/
    - https://huggingface.co/spaces/PirateXX/AI-Content-Detector
    - https://www.administrativelawmatters.com/blog/2023/02/21/chat-gpt-and-legal-research-a-cautionary-tale/

Dean's Report – Judith Russell

- 24-hour service in the Marston Science Library (MSL) has begun. The Starbucks in the MSL building has also begun 24-hour service and has put up an electric sign advertising the new hours.
- The previously closed-off spaces in Library West have reopened with some furniture rearranged to make up for the furniture that is still being replaced. Subject specialists are still working to determine which books will be replaced, and Dean Russell hopes to get the replacements ordered as soon as possible. At this point, there has not been a decision from the insurance company about how much they will pay. UF has already expended a significant amount of money to ServPro for the cleanup as well as UF funds for building repairs, so it is uncertain whether UF will receive enough money from the insurance company to cover replacement of the lost books.
- The Smathers Libraries still do not know what the budget will be for the next year. At the Academic Deans' Meeting, it was reported that the latest calculation is that the taxes on the colleges will go up by about 14 percent. The expectation from the Board of Trustees is that the colleges maintain the number of faculty that they have for teaching. It has not been decided what will be allocated to support units such as the Libraries which do not generate revenue. The request pending for the Libraries is a request that we make annually, which is for the funding to cover the price

increases of our materials. This increase would be about $900,000 dollars, which would translate to .5 percent of the 14 percent increase in taxes on the colleges. There have not been any increases in tuition and fees to cover the increase in expenses, though there has been some discussion with the Board of Governors and the Legislature about increasing graduate and professional tuition and fees.

- There will be a ULC year-end dinner at Dean Russell's house on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.
- At a recent meeting with the deans of libraries in the State University System, the dean from New College of Florida reported that the rate of acceptance of offers for admission has declined significantly compared to prior years.
- It has been difficult for the Smathers Libraries to acquire new materials because for many years the annual funding increases have only covered the price increases for maintaining existing materials. In the past, the Libraries have done analyses and found that the library budget at UF is smaller than the library budgets at peer and aspirational peer institutions.
- President Ben Sasse has not engaged with the Smathers Libraries yet. Dean Russell met him prior to the Nelson Initiative on Ethics and Leadership event on February 17, 2023. Dean Russell and a few other deans at the university were invited to a dinner with President Sasse, but Dean Russell was in London speaking at a conference and was thus unable to attend.

Law Library Update – Jane O'Connell

- Dean Laura A. Rosenbury at the Levin College of Law will be leaving at the end of May to start her new position as the president of Barnard College. An interim dean will likely be announced soon. The search for a new dean will likely take longer due to the ongoing search for a new provost.
- The summer construction project will go on as scheduled. They are still preparing the books that will go to the Florida Academic Repository (FLARE). Construction will begin the Monday after finals so that the noise does not disrupt studying.
- Spring classes are wrapping up.
- Discussions about the library budget are still ongoing. IT upgrades will likely be reduced.
- US News rankings will come out soon. The methodology has changed to be based only on publicly available information. Students look to these rankings, and the College of Law has been able to recruit extraordinary students in recent years as their ranking has gone up. Dean Russell highlighted the advantages of UF's higher ranking, such as support from the legislature to add more teaching faculty and reduce class sizes.

Additional Topics
- Dean Russell thanked the committee for their hard work and enthusiasm and congratulated them on their accomplishments.

Wrap-up/Topics for Wednesday, April 19, 2023, Meeting
- A new Chair will be elected at the next meeting. Committee members should submit their suggestions by April 10, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.