University Libraries Committee Minutes
December 1, 2023
10:40am – 12:35pm

Members Present: Lauren Adkins, Fatima Akinola, Vandana Baweja (Chair), Emma Carter, Lynne Clark, Stephanie Leon, Christine Myers (Vice Chair), Jane O'Connell, Anand Paul, Jennifer Rea, Morgan Rich, Judith Russell, Simranpreet Sidhu, Elizabeth Stokes

Also Present: Hallie Mills (taking the minutes)

Members Absent: David Blackburn, Rae Yan

The meeting commenced at 10:40 am.

Minutes Approval (October)
- The minutes for October were approved as amended to show that Lynne Clark was absent.

Information Literacy Committee (ILC) Update
- Dean Russell shared the most recent updates about the ULC, ILC, and Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) collaboration. The ILC is working to integrate more information literacy into UF courses, and Quest has been one specific area of focus. They have identified key topics, objectives, and resources, and they have recently hired an undergraduate intern to assist. The ILC will provide periodic updates to the ULC. The ULC Chair will follow up with the Quest office.
- Dean Russell shared slides that the Smathers Libraries' AI librarian, along with four other librarians in the Health Science Center Library, developed about generative AI as it relates to information literacy, which can be embedded into existing library curriculum. These include a single slide with a general explanation, as well as an optional second slide with the ability to add supplementary background information on AI depending on the area and purpose of the presentation. These are meant to be resources for talking to faculty about AI.
  - The ULC Chair mentioned that AI can make up or "hallucinate" not only citations but also facts. It is advised that AI be considered as an assistant whose work needs to be checked for accuracy and not taken at face value.
  - Elias Eldayrie, the Vice President and Chief Information Officer for the University of Florida, presented at a recent Association of Southeastern Research Libraries meeting. He mentioned that they are working on a closed dataset of all the university regulations and rules. If a dataset is closed, it is more reliable since you know what the source of the data is. ChatGPT is not closed.

Research & Scholarship/Infrastructure Council Meetings Update
- The Research & Scholarship Council meeting was primarily focused on the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP). They are gathering data from 2.5 million

patients who have been seen at either Jacksonville or Gainesville since January 2012, and they have over 3 billion facts that have been gathered about those patients to create a large clinical database warehouse that can be used for a variety of research. They have common formats, terminology, vocabulary, and coding for data, which makes retrieval better. ATLAS would be the tool used to address the database and extract data that aligns with your research needs. They expect to have a presentation on it at one of the early Faculty Senate meetings in the spring semester.

Dean's Report – Judith Russell

- Dean Russell shared initial data from an updated statistical analysis of library budgets at UF and fifteen peer public and private universities. We selected #22–27 (above UF), #28–35 (at or below UF) and #43 (Ohio State University, which was included based on shared institutional characteristics) from the 2023 US News & World Report rankings of public and private universities. Two universities were dropped, as they had data so extreme that it distorted the comparison.
- The Libraries are below average in library materials expenditures, total library expenditures, faculty/professional salaries & wages, and faculty/professional FTE.
- It has been several years since the Libraries received a budget increase other than to cover price increases. We also have not received recent funding to add new faculty, only to cover raises and changes in the cost of benefits. We will present this data in the next budget proposal.
- We are below average for almost every library resource factor for materials and staffing. We are above average for every university factor correlating with demand for library resources and services.

Law Library Update – Jane O'Connell

- The Legal Information Center is in 24/7 lockdown until January 13th. The law librarians are busy grading finals.
- They are progressing with their hiring of an Accounting & Acquisitions Manager to replace a long-time employee who is retiring.
- In the spring, they will refocus on their collection reorganization plan, as well as keep up with the AI legal research tools that are coming out very quickly.

Additional Topics

- The ULC Vice Chair shared that President Sasse talked at the Faculty Senate meeting about a bifurcated general education strategy with a humanities track and a STEM track, which is likely a long way off. The Libraries will follow these updates as they relate to the need for library resources and services.

Wrap-up/Topics for Spring 2024

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- The ULC Chair shared that she has upcoming travel in the spring but will attend Research & Scholarship/Infrastructure Council meetings when possible. Another member will provide these updates as needed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.