

University Library Committee
Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Held remotely via Zoom

This meeting was convened on Zoom because all classes are being held online during the first two weeks of the semester due to the pandemic. Consequently, the Academic Senate has required all shared-governance committees to meet remotely during these two weeks so that students and others working from home will be able to attend.

The meeting started at 3:19 p.m. and was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Attendees: Martin Engelke, Sue Franzen, Gary Hunter, Kathryn Jasper, Guang Jin, Marie Labonville, Claire Lieberman, Dallas Long, Rachel Scott, and Kathy Webster.

1. **Introductions.** Welcome to our newest member Guang Jin, faculty member from Health Sciences!
2. **Approval of minutes from November 10, 2021.** Minutes from the November meeting were approved by all members who had been present at that meeting.
3. **Report from Chair Labonville on pending issues**
 - a. At the previous meeting, we had discussed finding a larger space for our meetings so we can practice better social distancing. Labonville has secured the conference room of the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts; it's in the Center for the Visual Arts, room 118.
 - b. Student member Olivia Jankiewicz can no longer participate due to a schedule conflict.
 - c. At our last meeting, Labonville said that she would find out whether the Dean of Students' office has a mechanism for recruiting students to shared-governance committees. They do not; that is all handled by the SGA. ULC has not had good luck recruiting via the SGA. It was suggested that Labonville contact John Davenport, the dean of students, because he is the SGA faculty advisor.
 - i. Webster expressed an interest in following up in some way(s) and asked if Milner could recruit via its social media platforms. Dean Long indicated that this has been attempted in the past, both via social media and posters in the building.
 - ii. Lieberman suggested working with the Graduate School to get suggestions for student members. Dean Long noted that this is how this year's graduate student member had been recruited. (NOTE: This graduate student had to withdraw for personal reasons and never attended a meeting.)
 - d. At our last meeting, Labonville indicated that she would investigate whether the Dean of Students has a newsletter or other type of electronic communication in which the library could announce new services and events. The Dean of Students' office indicated that they do not have anything like that for students because the university

- discourages mass emails except in truly urgent situations. They do, however, have a newsletter for parents and families, and they would be happy to include our announcements in that publication. The committee is not interested in pursuing this because the students won't be reading that newsletter.
- e. Labonville's term on the ULC ends this semester and she will not apply for a consecutive term because she will be on sabbatical for the academic year 2022–2023. She contacted Thomas Burr, a longtime member of the ULC and its chair for several years, to see whether he might be ready to return to the committee and again serve as chair. He will not consider returning to the committee until his book is finished, a year or two from now. Engelke will consider serving as chair and will follow up with Labonville with any questions.

4. Dean's update

- a. Construction has started on Floor 1 in the large area designated as temporary housing for certain Fine Arts spaces during that College's renovations. This will lower Milner's construction costs for the Student Success Center by about 50 percent, but it will also delay construction on the project. Labonville noted that the ISU Foundation is accepting donations for the future Student Success Center.
- b. Milner participated in a Redbird Hatch Initiative and raised around \$4,000 for museum-quality costume mannequins for the Ueckert Circus Costume collection.
- c. Milner's Birds Give Back initiative will focus on its textbook affordability project, which purchases assigned texts as e-books with unlimited user licenses.
- d. Milner is currently open during business hours until courses return to the in-person modality.
- e. Milner is conducting three faculty searches at the moment: Head of Technical Services, Fine Arts Librarian, and Teaching and Learning Librarian. The search committee for the Associate Dean for Public Services and Professional Development has just been assigned.

5. **How can the University Library Committee help the dean?** Previously, the dean and associate deans had developed five questions for members to consider. Two of these were discussed at the November meeting and the remaining three were discussed today:

What do you or your colleagues need from your subject librarians beyond access to new materials?

- Webster noted that most faculty don't know much about Open Access and OER. She wondered if subject librarians could advise on friendly publishers. She gave an example of a textbook being used over several semesters, and students who prefer a digital version have to rent it over multiple semesters at great cost.

- Webster shared that some faculty aren't confident as relates to predatory journals, conferences, or practices. Labonville noted that graduate students need help with this, too, and that subject librarians could visit graduate research courses to discuss these topics. Lieberman asked about predatory practices in the arts, especially as relates to exhibits and openings.
- Hunter wondered how faculty outside of this group could communicate their needs to subject librarians. Franzen and Labonville noted that having subject librarians participate in faculty meetings or listservs facilitates ongoing dialogue and interchange.
- Engelke asked about reaching out to subject librarians concerning textbooks and making limited physical copies available to classes.
- Jin mentioned that students learn well from games and animations. Could subject librarians assist with this?

What new directions are taking place or being discussed in your disciplines?

- Dean Long contextualized this question by noting that when the library is reactive instead of proactive, the money often isn't there.
- Engelke noted that biological sciences is most active in ecology, molecular and cellular biology, and neuroscience; neuroscience is a growing area.
- Jin indicated that sustainability, whether in water, science, or health, is a highly interdisciplinary topic of interest to many disciplines. It has been growing over the past decade and needs some progressive thinking.
- Webster explained that professional practice experience is currently shifting from hospitals or laboratory settings to campus in either a laboratory or simulation setting. It is challenging at ISU because we're not affiliated with a medical school and don't have patients. She is accordingly interested in virtual reality, though she understands that this may not happen in the immediate future. Nursing uses a lot of simulations, but they also have hospital experiences. In education, student teachers are also using simulations. This need for virtual reality may be of interest to multiple disciplines; her discipline is still figuring out how and if quality can be maintained in virtual reality.
- Lieberman noted that her area is creating a gaming program and indicated that sustainability is also a frequent focus in the arts. When she was doing research for the Belonging and Equity program in her area (which aligns with diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives elsewhere), she discovered that there was not a campus repository of relevant materials for researchers. She inquired after a resource center in the library that could help the University community find materials. Dean Long mentioned Milner's [Systemic Racism - Guide](#).

- Jasper expressed gratitude for Milner’s Special Collections and Digital Humanities work and noted that more materials related to history outside of the United States would be helpful, especially as her department welcomes two faculty outside of American history.

What interdisciplinary collaborations are you seeing in your schools/departments?

- Jasper indicated that she collaborates with a colleague in Art, and noted that the environmental historian works with faculty in art and horticulture. Her department is hiring a historian of science who will collaborate across many sciences, perhaps even medicine, or engineering. Less obvious pairings are happening, bringing together humanists with scientists or humanists and artists. There is also funding to support these interdisciplinary collaborations in CAS.
- Webster shared that interdisciplinary teams in hospitals are a growing trend. Although it is hard to envision how to make these happen on campus, she said a useful starting point might be with RSOs, for example when they fundraise for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.
- Engelke noted strong collaborations with physics and also chemistry.
- Sustainability was reiterated as a topic of interest to many and a site of much collaboration.
- Hunter noted that marketing and psychology collaborate and cited the Innovative Consulting project as an example that cuts across several disciplines (business, marketing, psychology).
- Lieberman collaborates with theatre/lighting and is grateful for increased exhibition possibilities in Milner. Dean Long confirmed that there is an endowed fund to support floor 2 exhibitions and the library’s master plan includes additional exhibition space.

6. Bylaws.

- a. Labonville asked if the entire bylaws should be overhauled or if the ULC should focus only on language related to requirements for student participants.
- b. Lieberman noted that if we notify SGA that the committee is considering reducing the number of student members, SGA might be encouraged to find volunteers. Lieberman also suggested changing the language from the current range of “3–5 students” to a maximum number, for example, “up to 4.”
- c. Since today’s business consumed nearly all of the meeting period, Labonville decided to postpone finalizing the bylaws language regarding student members until the February meeting.

7. Announcements and miscellaneous. None.