

University Library Committee
Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 3:55–4:50 p.m.
CVA room 145

The meeting started at 3:55 p.m. (due to a schedule conflict involving Dean Long and Associate Dean Scott) and was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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

1. **Approval of minutes.** Minutes from the January 12 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. **Milner Library Program Review.** Dean Long has written a charge for a working group on the Milner Library Program Review. The group will create a rubric for the first program review of Milner Library's primary programs and services. The working group will be chaired by Chad Kahl, Data Services Librarian; J. Cooper Cutting will serve as ex officio liaison to the Academic Planning Committee. Dean Long asked if ULC involvement and representation might be appropriate and plans to update ULC members after Library Council has reviewed and approved the charge and determined a schedule.
3. **Mentoring @ Milner.** Dean Long shared that Milner's Mentoring group has been sharing online presentations to highlight a variety of Milner's programs and services. Marie Labonville indicated that she would be amenable to presenting a session on the University Library Committee in this series.
4. **Brief demonstration of IglooVision,** a 360-degree immersive virtual reality technology under consideration for Milner Library. Anne Shelley led a faculty working group at ISU prior to the pandemic to establish the needs for digital humanities and digital scholarship on campus. Dean Long is considering repurposing Milner's computer lab as an immersive virtual reality space.
 - a. Marie Labonville asked if stock footage is available. Dean Long indicated that there can be and that librarians can be asked to assist with finding it. Faculty can also develop their own footage; that requires long-range planning. Labonville reiterated that there would be a learning curve related to specialized equipment.
 - b. Marie Labonville asked if this equipment would take up the entire space in the computer lab. Dean Long indicated that it would not take up the whole space, but space may need to be used for utilities and HVAC. Long indicated that students would not be disadvantaged by losing the computer lab because we have 30 laptops that we lend from the circulation desk and around 45 desktop computers throughout the library available for student use.
 - c. Claire Lieberman recommended reaching out to Rose Marshack, Director of Creative Technologies, for input on this project.

- d. Kathy Webster recommended reaching out to music faculty member Roy Magnuson, who has integrated VR into his classes and research; she expressed concerns that this proposal is not necessarily interactive.
 - e. Kathryn Jasper indicated that the scale of the virtual environment is highly desirable, and that students could participate as a group. When writing grant applications, she could refer to this equipment and thinks that others in history and art could as well.
 - f. Dean Long indicated that students at MSU had hesitance around wearing goggles, especially in time of COVID. Martin Engelke asked if goggles could be used in this setup as well. Dean Long is not certain about the integration of goggle-based VR in this context.
 - g. Kathy Webster asked how quickly new scenarios could be set up. Dean Long indicated that the overlay process only requires a few hours of time for setup. Creating the footage is a logistical challenge.
 - h. Claire Lieberman asked what this would be displacing in Milner projects. And if costs escalate during construction, what would be cut? Dean Long indicated that physically it would not displace anything except for the computer lab. As far as funding, Dean Long has budgeted support for digital humanities; those funds cannot be used for anything else. Projects would need to be updated every four/seven years (depending on setup); this would be a substantial ongoing cost.
 - i. Martin Engelke asked about overlap with e-sports and Dean Long is not sure. Engelke reiterated that when something comes at such a high cost, it should be well-used.
 - j. Marie Labonville asked if library IT would support this. Dean Long indicated that library IT would support this, and that librarians would need to liaise with areas to search for footage and images. If the Provost's Office supports the hiring of a Digital Humanities Librarian, this person would support faculty/instructional use.
 - k. Marie Labonville asked about logistical issues since the company is based in the U.K.; Dean Long indicated that the company has a distributor outside Chicago.
5. **Report by the chair on issues pending from the last meeting.** Marie Labonville has contacted Dean of Students John Davenport to ask about getting student members from the SGA. Davenport indicated that SGA could nominate students but could not ensure that they would participate. Davenport asked about committee business that could pique student interest, and Labonville indicated that because ULC has not had student members for some time, the focus of meetings has been on faculty and library interests.
6. **University Library Committee Bylaws.**
- a. Labonville asked if committee members were interested in updating the Students section only, or the entire document.
 - b. Claire Lieberman asked if diversity and inclusion might be added to the functions.
 - c. Labonville indicated that we should likely discuss this in the April meeting.
7. **Announcements and miscellaneous**
- a. There is no March meeting because it falls during Spring Break.