

University Library Committee Minutes

April 12, 2017, 3:15 PM

Present: Thomas Burr, Oguzhan Dincer, Chad Kahl, Marie Labonville, Alan Lessoff, Dallas Long, Jay Percell, Ed Reitz, Kathy Webster

Absent: Melissa Johnson

Guest: Susan Kalter

Burr called the meeting to order at 3:20pm. February and March 2017 minutes were approved, pending editorial suggestions recommended by Labonville.

Labonville sought clarification as to whether she was eligible to renew her membership on ULC. Kalter clarified that while she was eligible to serve an additional term, the period to state her interest had expired. Labonville's membership will conclude.

Burr noted Ward's retirement from Illinois State University and new appointment as Dean of Libraries at Appalachian State University, effective August 1st. Members offered him congratulations. A reception for Ward will be held on May 17th from 2-4pm at Milner Library, and ULC members are invited to attend. An interim dean will be appointed by Interim Provost Murphy later in the semester.

Burr said the meeting has only one agenda item. He asked the group to discuss the draft questions and select 4-8 questions that members may use as a guide when meeting with colleagues in the fall semester and interviewing them on whether the library is meeting their needs or not meeting their needs.

The members took five minutes to review the questions.

Labonville said questions #1-18 are suitable for ULC members to ask, and #19 onwards are more suitable for librarians to ask their constituents.

Dincer asked why not use all 30 questions as a guide or allow members to simply choose the questions they want to ask. Burr replied that using all 30 questions would lead to very lengthy interviews, and interviews would not be comparable if members select different questions to ask.

Percell said he preferred Ward's question – How can the library better meet the needs of your department – and Question #5 "Are you satisfied with your department's relationship with the library?"

Labonville asked whether members would interview someone from every department on campus. Burr replied that all departments should be represented, but ULC members currently represent their own departments. Thus, colleagues from members' own departments need not be interviewed. Labonville pointed out that she specializes in music research whereas many of her colleagues specialize in performance. They would have very different perspectives. Burr said this method will result in only a sampling and isn't intended to be comprehensive.

Percell asked whether members should reach out to department chairs and school directors. Dincer said chairs and directors are not necessarily active in scholarship and teaching. Dincer suggested reaching out more deliberately to pre-tenure faculty, particularly those closer to their tenure year, as they might be the faculty members most actively engaged in scholarship. Some members of the committee disagreed, saying tenured faculty members seeking promotion to professor are just as actively engaged.

Webster observed that many questions revolve around access, others around services, and others around communication.

The committee members selected questions and modified wording. Final questions are:

- *What is your discipline/subfield and what are your teaching and research needs?*
- *How well is the library meeting your needs in terms of your scholarship? Your teaching? Your space needs? Your technology needs?*
- *How do you interact and communicate with the library? Are you satisfied with the quality of your interaction and communication with the library?*
- *What library issues have you heard about from your colleagues? From students?*
- *What would you like to see the library do?*

There will be no May meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday in September (13th.)

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm