

University Library Committee Minutes
September 11, 2019

Present: Barrowclough, Burr, Cranston, Kahl, Labonville, Link, Long, Webster, Zeck

Absent: Hunt

Guest: Buckley, Murphy, Shelley (all Milner)

Meeting was called to order at 3:25pm.

Introductions were made and new members welcomed.

Burr introduced Buckley, Murphy, and Shelley as Milner Library's head of collection development, collection assessment, and scholarly communication/music librarian, respectively. Buckley, Murphy, and Shelley provided a presentation on the state of the escalating cost of serials, libraries' responses to managing rising costs with flat collections budgets, and scholars' options for accessing paywalled information and open-access publishing venues.

Zeck discussed how Milner Library's collections budget is consistent from year to year but the library's buying capacity declines because of these annual inflationary costs of journals.

Discussion ensued regarding the role of faculty members and the knowledge-production culture of higher education play in the scholarly publishing crisis. The tenure and promotion system weighs heavily into this issue. Zeck suggested the committee could assist the library in identifying venues for helping Buckley, Murphy, and Shelley reach wider audiences at the University for their presentation. The DFSC/SFSCs, the CTLT Teaching & Learning Symposium, and the University Chairs and School Directors' Council were suggested. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs was suggested as a potentially appropriate partner for addressing these issues.

Shelley discussed Milner Library's plans for programs during Open Access Week. Jason Schmitt, a professor of communication at Clarkson University, will present his documentary "Paywall: the Business of Scholarship" at the Normal Theatre on 5:30pm Monday, October 21st as part of the open access week programming series. All are welcome to attend.

Zeck provided an update on the plaza rehabilitation project. Interior work is expected to begin shortly after a delay of several months. The University is contracting with Demonica Kemper, an architecture firm, to design the student success center that is planned for constructed on the renovated first floor. The agreement is currently awaiting execution with University Purchasing.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.