

University Library Committee

October 14, 2020, started at 3:15 pm and adjourned at 4:32 pm

The meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom

Attendees: Bibek Adhikari, Michael Barrowclough, Martin Engelke, Denise Hammer, Gary Hunter, Chad Kahl, Marie Labonville, Claire Lieberman, Dallas Long, Erin Link, Rachel Scott, and Kathy Webster

Minutes from September 9, 2020 were accepted with minor editorial revisions.

Anne Shelley, Milner Library's Scholarly Communication Library and Music subject librarian, gave a presentation.

She began with an overview of her roles and responsibilities. She noted the presentations she had given to the University Library Committee in the prior year as well as the informational and professional development opportunities that Scholarly Communications has provided to campus, often in conjunction with campus partners. She noted the services that are provided to campus and shared the [Scholarly Communications](#) library guide. She discussed portions of the guide:

- [ISU ReD](#) – Illinois State University's institutional repository
- Open Access
- Publishing Services – Milner Library publishes peer-reviewed journals, dissertations and theses, and conference proceedings
- Evaluating Publishers – Resources on combatting predatory or deceptive publishing
- Copyright Services

Shelley noted the Milner and campus offerings for Open Access Week (October 19–25, 2020):

- [Milner news story](#) on the recognition of the week and events
- [Milner news story](#) on the keynote presentation, "Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism," by Dr. Safiya Umoja Noble

Shelley next spoke about textbook affordability. She discussed the work of the [Textbook Affordability Committee](#), an external committee of the Academic Senate. She noted the development of an [informational web site](#). She highlighted the student feedback that was gathered during a Spring 2019 survey. The Committee is now working on roughly 350 responses to a faculty survey that was released in Spring 2020. She called attention to the several drop-down menus and separate pages on that site: textbook affordability and surveys; students; faculty; FAQ; links; and contact.

She shared portions of the [Affordable Course Materials](#) library guide.

Shelley then discussed the development of a Digital Humanities Task Force convened in Fall 2019 by Interim Dean Shari Zeck. She reviewed the work of the task force and discussed the white paper produced by the group. The task force performed an environmental scan, surveyed the faculty, and ran a focus group. The executive summary noted what faculty would like (e.g. support, space, services), and referred to the current digital humanities research and teaching already occurring on campus. The summary also included a set of recommendations related to physical space, technology, personnel, professional development opportunities, and a flexibility related to fostering a culture that encourages and invests in risk-taking and experimentation. Milner has focused on programming in response to the Task Force white paper.

Labonville asked Long about his prior request for a November meeting agenda item related to planning for COVID-19. Long noted that he will meet with the campus COVID-19 steering committee the following day. If the steering committee has a document ready by the November 11 meeting of the ULC, it can be discussed at that meeting and feedback can be collected. On the other hand, if the document is not ready for review and discussion, a backup activity should be in place for the November 11 agenda.

Long noted that last year's ULC had discussed getting a virtual tour of the University Archives. Labonville will contact April Anderson and schedule the tour for the November 11 meeting, to serve as a backup agenda item in case the COVID-19 planning document is not ready.