

## **Library Council**

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

9:00 AM, 311G and Zoom

Library Council Present: Chad Buckley, Colby Cilento, Carrie Forbes, Ellie Harman, Logan Janicki, Jayna Leipart Guttilla, Jennifer Sharkey, Lindsey Skaggs, Chris Worland

## **Agenda**

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Lindsey Skaggs called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Chair Skaggs welcomed Jennifer Sharkey as the new tenure-track/tenured faculty (TT) caucus representative, who was elected to complete Angela Yon's term, as Yon is currently on sabbatical.

### **II. Approval of Minutes from 1/14/26 and 1/28/26 Library Council Meetings**

Logan Janicki referred to the 1/28/26 minutes. Under Item IIIA, there was a statement incorrectly attributed to him, about Dean Forbes serving in addition to five members, rather than being one of the five.

Jayna Leipart Guttilla noted she made that statement.

Colby Cilento explained that she usually uses initials to denote speakers when taking minutes and must have transposed the L and J accidentally. She would correct the minutes.

Library Council approved the 1/14/26 and 1/28/26 meeting minutes.

### **III. Public Comments**

Chair Skaggs noted that no members of the public registered to speak.

### **IV. Information Items**

#### **A. Academic Senate Updates (Bonnell)**

Angela Bonnell, Academic Senate Chair, provided the following updates from Academic Senate:

- The Senate approved changes to their bylaws. These changes include:
  - Updating to include new title for Associate Vice President for Graduate Education and Internationalization Initiatives.
  - Chairs cannot serve on external committees unless otherwise noted.
  - A motion was approved to amend the ISU constitution to reflect those changes and make the document gender neutral, remove longstanding typos, and introduce language for the merger of the civil service and administrative professional councils to the newly combined staff council.
- Changes were approved to [Policy 3.3.5](#), Distinguished Professors, to reflect that chairs and directors are eligible for the award.

- There was an information item for changes to [Policy 9.2](#), Appropriate Use of Information Technology Resources and Systems, which sparked an hour of discussion. There were 17 distinct questions and a variety of follow-ups asked, so review will continue.
- [Policy 1.7](#), University Use of Electronic Equipment for Surveillance Purposes, is also being completely overhauled.
- The Academic Affairs Committee is working on a Policy 4.1.22, regarding recording in instructional settings. Bonnell has questions about Milner's representation in this new policy. It will be an information item at the February 18 senate meeting.
- [Policy 3.2.9](#), Leave Without Pay, will also be substantially overhauled and broadly named as personal leave.
- In an unexpected development, there has been a new student body president since January.
- On February 20, the ISU Academic Senate will be hosting a conference of other public university senates to discuss state and national issues.

## **B. Dean's Updates (Forbes)**

### FY 2027 Budget

Dean Carrie Forbes stated that the library had received their draft budget for fiscal year 2027. The budget was \$10.2 million, which is roughly the same as the prior year. The inflationary increase she requested was not approved. The budget includes most of the salary lines of positions which had been recently vacated, with the exception of Maria Tudela's former line. Because there are a number of vacant positions, there is considerable salary variance available. When the budget is built, some of the personnel funds can be moved into operating funds, if needed.

Dean Forbes feels pretty good overall about the budget. She and Budget Manager Tracy Berner will review the budget and provide allocations. She noted there is some consternation from some of the colleges regarding the budget algorithm, while others are doing well with it. It has been confirmed that the Academic Impact Fund will be going away in the sense that units and colleges will retain funds if someone retires or resigns. Permission will still need to be sought for tenure-track (TT) position postings, like any other postings. There are still some questions about this procedurally with regards to requesting those TT lines. She would like there to be more flexibility for hiring those positions. She noted that Tudela's position was being refilled as a non-tenure track (NTT) faculty position because of the timing it would take to request a TT position.

Chair Skaggs noted that the recent search for Tudela's replacement failed. She asked if they would move forward with another search for that position as an NTT, rather than holding out for a TT position; whereby, Dean Forbes confirmed they would since it would take a long time to request a TT line.

### Accessibility

Dean Forbes shared she has a meeting scheduled with legal counsel to ask many questions about the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title II digital accessibility rules which go into place in April of this year. Please let her know if you have any questions that you'd like her to ask them.

### Bryant Jackson Lecture

Dean Forbes has made a request to Meredith Farkas to be the speaker for the library's Bryant Jackson Lecture. Farkas focuses on slow librarianship and reflective practice.

## **V. Discussion Items**

### **A. Seat Strategic Planning Working Group**

Chair Skaggs was pleased there were 10 volunteers to serve on the Strategic Planning Working Group. She listed them in alphabetical order by last name, and with their unit affiliation, if applicable, for consideration: Joshua Altshuler (Public Services), April Anderson-Zorn, Angie Bonnell (Public Services), Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Danielle Futoran Turos (Public Services), Ellie Harman (Information Assets), Heather Koopmans (Public Services), Jayna Leipart Guttilla (Information Assets), Michelle Neuffer, Jennifer Sharkey (Public Services), and Lindsey Skaggs (Information Assets). She also heard from two interested students - Benjamin Rodriguez, a student worker in the Patron Services department, and Jia Zuo, a student representative on University Library Council. She noted some potential interest from some other students, but they were concerned about the time commitment or did not respond further. One of them noted she would be interested in helping review materials if needed.

Chair Skaggs explained that during the previous discussion, Library Council (LC) indicated an interest in attempting to seat someone from each unit, Public Services (PS) and Information Assets (IA), as well as someone outside those units, if possible. She noted she did not ask for a statement of interest, but some provided it. She explained that April Anderson-Zorn had noted she was on the last group and felt that someone from special collections or archives should serve, but she would defer to other volunteers from that category if they were available.

Chris Worland suggested seating Rebecca Fitzsimmons, from special collections, given Anderson-Zorn's comments.

Chad Buckley suggested then seating perhaps two IA and two PS representatives.

Worland, Skaggs, and Cilento expressed support for seating Michelle Neuffer. Skaggs noted Neuffer's previous work with a consultant evaluating the current strategic plan to ISU's new one and identifying gaps and room for greater alignment.

Chair Skaggs expressed support for seating Jayna Leipart Guttilla, noting that Head of Technical Services Eric Willey had emailed an endorsement highlighting her work on the university's Resilience, Innovation, Sustainability, and Excellence (RISE) Taskforce and her prior strategic planning experience.

Cilento agreed with seating Leipart Guttilla, noting she was in the technical services department, the largest group in Information Assets.

Chair Skaggs addressed her own candidacy, noting she had mentioned she could assist with dashboard creation and there was a lot of scholarly communication overlap in the university's strategic plan. She explained she could still provide feedback at other times and as LC chair, if she was not seated.

Cilento suggested seating Heather Koopmans as a PS representative. She referred to Koopmans' statement of interest, which referred to the plan as a compass and highlighted her past strategic planning experience.

Cilento noted that there had been discussion at the last LC meeting about also trying to provide representation across the caucuses, depending on the volunteer slate. If that was important, there was only one NTT volunteer - Danielle Futoran Turos.

Chair Skaggs noted that both Koopmans and Futoran Turos were subject librarians. She wondered if it would be better to seat one of the other PS volunteers who was not, such as Sharkey or Bonnell.

Jennifer Sharkey explained that she had been involved in strategic planning at other institutions and served on the university level strategic plan taskforce twice. She had experience with it and also with dashboards and statistical analysis.

Chair Skaggs noted that there were many good volunteers, twice as many as there were seats available.

Sharkey noted that for representation purposes, it could be helpful to have an NTT representative on the committee.

Worland expressed support for Futoran Turos, sharing that she worked with the College of Business and as such was familiar with organizational planning and structures.

Chair Skaggs stated there would be many opportunities in different venues to discuss what came out of the group. She would be comfortable seating Futoran Turos, Bonnell, or Sharkey.

Logan Janicki supported having representation from the different caucuses, noting there were different incentive structures for all of them.

Chair Skaggs summarized as currently suggested, there would be two TT representatives, two civil service (CS) representatives, and one NTT representative.

Worland expressed a preference for having an NTT representative. He noted his reservation was that there would be two subject librarians if Koopmans and Futoran Turos were seated.

Sharkey noted there was no volunteer from the patron services department; whereby, Chair Skaggs clarified there was not, except for a student volunteer.

Cilento suggested seating that student volunteer; Skaggs noted that as a student employee, that individual would also be compensated for their time.

Chair Skaggs noted that the other student volunteers could also potentially comment on drafts, if needed; whereby, Dean Forbes noted that the student on the University Library Committee would see the plan.

Chair Skaggs acknowledged the awkwardness of having this seating discussion in an open meeting, as required by the Open Meetings Act. She thanked all of the volunteers. The group as

seated was Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Danielle Futoran Turos, Heather Koopmans, Jayna Leipart Guttilla, Michelle Neuffer, and student representative Benjamin Rodriguez.

## **B. Elections Procedures**

Chair Skaggs explained that at a recent TT caucus meeting, there had been discussion about the election procedures for the committees that are mostly or only available to TT faculty. There are often not enough representatives to go around and situations where someone must drop off one committee when elected to another. There is also a question of when voting occurs, whether they are counting the majority of the votes cast or are they looking for a majority percentage of the eligible voters.

Chair Skaggs shared there was also discussion as to if they were conducting elections in the same manner as LC, which has a runoff system if no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote. She noted that for the last LC election, to fill Yon's seat, there were three candidates, and none received 50 percent so it should have gone to a runoff. However, LC was concerned it would end the same with that small pool, and the second and third place candidates were tied, so they opted to go with the winning candidate instead. She explained that the reason for the runoff rule was because in cases with many people on the ballot, such as CS elections, they didn't want to elect someone with a small percentage of the overall vote.

Chair Skaggs asked if LC wanted to revisit the election procedures and potentially change them. She suggested that perhaps the runoff procedure be triggered only when there was a certain number of candidates. She was not sure what that number would be. It seemed that the current procedures created a lot of extra work in some cases.

Cilento stated that she believed the bylaws would have to be updated to reflect any changes and go through the Academic Senate. She noted there were likely one or two things that needed to be updated due to OMA anyway.

Sharkey explained that when she served on the election committee for TT caucus, there were normally only two or three candidates for any seat, so they went with the outright winner and did not go to a runoff. She noted that both markers - number of votes cast or number of eligible votes - have been used in TT caucus. She liked the suggestion for setting a threshold number of candidates that would prompt a runoff, if needed.

Cilento explained that for LC elections, they tallied based on the percentage of the votes cast, not eligible voters.

Worland was in favor of having a stipulation that if the ballot contained less than a certain number of candidates, a simple majority would decide the winner.

Cilento noted that CS caucus is likely to be the only group that would regularly trigger the runoffs, based on the large number of CS staff. She also was in favor of the number stipulation proposal. She wasn't sure offhand what that number should be.

Chair Skaggs suggested that LC consider this and discuss further at a future meeting. They could review the election procedures document for potential updates and changes, as well as look at

places in the bylaws that may need that as well. She noted she believed the bylaws did not actually specify the election procedures but referred to that document.

Chair Skaggs also noted that Yon had been the third person on the LC election committee, along with the vice chair and secretary. She asked if anyone else would be willing to serve in that role now.

Sharkey volunteered.

### **C. Dean's Evaluation**

Chair Skaggs noted the dean's evaluation would be forthcoming, as it occurred in the spring. She asked about the timing and whether the provost's office initiated the process.

Cilento thought it was sent to the provost in March or April. She explained that the LC chair, vice chair, and secretary go over the survey responses and create a summary report to submit to the provost.

Buckley confirmed it was sent to the provost in April.

Skaggs explained that an anonymous survey is sent to the entire library for feedback that is used by the council officers to prepare that report. She noted the questions were determined by the Academic Senate and could not be changed without their approval.

Dean Forbes asked if the provost would provide her with the report; whereby, Cilento noted they were not sure.

Dean Forbes asked when the survey went out; whereby, Buckley replied that it was in March last year. He noted he received an email in February from the provost's office prompting the process.

### **VI. Celebratory Items**

There were no celebratory items.

### **VII. Announcements/Other**

#### Love Data Week

Chair Skaggs noted that it was International Love Data Week, and there would be a speaker, Dr. Anita Say Chan, on February 12, providing a talk on predatory data.

#### Candidates Forums

Dean Forbes shared that the finalists for the Associate Vice President for Research position would be on campus next week and the following week, with open forums held.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Skaggs at 9:48 a.m.

Submitted by C. Cilento

25 February 2026