

Library Council

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

9:00 AM, 311G and Zoom

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

Agenda

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Minutes from 12/4/25 and 12/11/25 Library Council Meetings

Library Council approved the 12/4/25 and 12/11/25 minutes.

III. Public Comments

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

IV. Information Items

A. Security Team Bylaws Update

Chair Skaggs shared that the Security Team had updated their bylaws, which they were required to share with Library Council for review.

Dean Carrie Forbes noted that there were no huge changes. Primarily, the changes had to deal with the composition of the team, which had previously required an administration representative but since Ryan Peters' position as Building Manager was part of administration, that was redundant.

Library Council had no further comment on the updated bylaws.

B. Dean's Items (Forbes)

Budget

Dean Forbes stated that Grant Thorton, the consultant for the university's budget model, provided budget numbers to Academic Affairs a few weeks prior, but the library did not yet have their specific numbers. She explained that the library was part of the provost office's allocation, and they would work through how to divide those funds. She expected to hear about fiscal year 2027's budget potentially by the end of the week. There may be anxiety from some colleges because the budget numbers show that only two of the colleges had extra funds while three were underwater in terms of expected expenses vs expected revenue. However, the overall budget for Academic Affairs had enough to cover all the deficits, but there will be conversations between the colleges about how to distribute those funds.

Dean Forbes noted she may reach out to some members of the library, such as Head of Collection Development Chad Buckley, when the budget was received. She also noted she hoped to have some answers about positions as well, specifically ones tied to the Academic Impact Fund (AIF), once those final numbers were provided. There would then be a process to decide which positions to prioritize.

Chad Buckley asked if the AIF was still in place for this year; whereby, Dean Forbes replied that it was but should go away the following year. She noted she had asked specifically for an exception to keep the funding for Maureen Brunsdale's position, since she recently retired. That is part of the budget calculation.

GE Road campus

Dean Forbes shared that at a campus space planning meeting, there was discussion about the GE Road campus location. There are plans to have a bus route that goes between that campus and the main campus. That campus may eventually be named something like the east campus. The time blocks for classes there will be scheduled for a half hour off those on the main campus to allow for time for buses and transportation to classes between the two locations.

Founding Celebrations

Dean Forbes shared that the Founding Celebration for ISU will be held February 17-19. Archives will have an exhibit they will be running for it. Nominations are also being accepted to ring the bell on Founders Day.

Bryant Jackson Lecture

Dean Forbes shared that she has a few ideas and has reached out to some potential speakers for the annual Bryant Jackson lecture at Milner, related to National Library Workers Day. If you have ideas for speakers, please reach out to her.

C. Working Group for Strategic Planning (Forbes)

Dean Forbes sent a draft proposal for a Working Group for Strategic Planning to Library Council. She noted that the current plan ended in 2026. She has been tasked by the provost and president with getting a new strategic plan done by the end of the current fiscal year. The current strategic plan has a lot of core ideas in it. She explained that as part of her job offer, she negotiated some funds to pay a consultant for strategic planning. Myka Kennedy Stephens has been hired; her contract has been approved by purchasing. She wrote a book entitled *Integrated Library Planning: A New Model for Strategic and Dynamic Planning, Management, and Assessment*. The consultant can do some of the heavy lifting and has already been provided with documents such as the current strategic plan, annual reports, and university's strategic plan. She will do an environmental scan and suggest some areas of strategic alignment for the library with university goals.

Dean Forbes would like the working group to be a conduit for feedback to their representative areas. The consultant does not want a huge working group and suggested the group have five members. Dean Forbes is open to how representatives are selected. LC is by caucuses, but do caucuses make the most sense for strategic planning, or would it make more sense to select representatives from different organizational areas of the library. This would be a short-lived working group that should wrap by June. They will be primarily meeting with the consultant, who is also open to doing a workshop for either the working group or the entire library, either

remotely or potentially in-person, but that would be decided closer to when a plan would be finalized.

Dean Forbes asked for feedback from Library Council on the draft proposal. She noted they could ask their caucuses to provide feedback. Anyone was welcome to make comments on the document. She would like feedback specifically on the composition of the representatives. She also asked whether she should chair the group or if there should be another chair to work with her and the consultant. If you serve, you will receive a copy of *Integrated Library Planning*.

Chris Worland asked when Dean Forbes wanted feedback by, assuming the next LC meeting; whereby, Dean Forbes noted she had added tentative dates into the proposal and hoped for feedback in the next two weeks so the group could be formed in mid to late February.

Chair Skaggs noted that as far as composition, LC is by caucus but currently only has one member from Public Services, so it may make more sense to go by departments/units.

Chris Worland agreed it made sense for department or functional units to be represented. He noted that all non-tenure track faculty (NTTs) were in Public Services.

Dean Forbes explained there could be a dual pronged approach, where representatives can get feedback and circulate documents through Library Council as well as caucuses for feedback.

Chair Skaggs would send the draft proposal out to the library and solicit feedback to discuss at the next meeting.

D. AI Position Statement Available

Chair Skaggs shared that the finalized AI position statement was posted online at <https://library.illinoisstate.edu/about/policies/ai/>. She noted that the A-Z database list had added a flag for those tools, which read "AI Tool Included," and under additional information had details about the tool in question. She thanked Electronic Resources Librarian Grace Norris and the e-resources team for adding those. She noted that Norris had asked if tools that are under evaluation should also be flagged as such. For example, to review Ebook Central, the tool had to be activated because there was no testing sandbox.

Skaggs, Cilento, and Worland expressed support for adding the tool included flag.

Worland noted that information about the tool being under evaluation, if needed, could be placed under additional information.

Skaggs would let Norris know that LC felt best practice was to include the tag and add in the description that it was under review, if appropriate.

V. Celebratory Items

Conference Proposal

Logan Janicki shared that his conference proposal to the Reaching Forward South Conference of the Illinois Library Association was accepted. In April, he would present about game play in libraries along with a youth services librarian from his previous institution.

CIPD Teaching and Learning Symposium

Sue Franzen recognized Milner colleagues who presented at ISU's Center for Integrated Professional Development's Teaching and Learning Symposium, including Grace Allbaugh, Chad Kahl, Jennifer Sharkey, April Anderson-Zorn, Joshua Newport, and Kate Tallman. It was great to have so much Milner representation there.

Elsevier Open Access Agreement

Chair Skaggs shared that there was a new open access publishing support agreement with Elsevier. The agreement waives article processing charges for 26 articles accepted by ISU corresponding authors in hybrid journals each year.

VI. Announcements/Other

New Metadata Specialist

Dean Forbes shared that Colleen O'Keefe, the new Metadata Specialist, started that week.

Election for T/TT vacancy on Library Council

Chair Skaggs noted that Angela Yon, one of the tenured/tenure-track faculty (TT) representatives of LC, was on sabbatical this semester. There would be an election held to fill the remainder of that term. She explained there had been some delay in movement with that because Milner's College Faculty Status Committee (CFSC) needed to find a tenured representative to serve a remaining term there, and that individual could not be on LC. Rachel Scott was elected to CFSC but has now resigned so the eligibility math changed again.

Worland shared that he had asked last semester for those who wished to remove their names from the LC ballot to do so. He could contact those who had been willing to potentially serve before and see if they were willing to still be considered. He believed that there may have only been one tenured individual there, so the math may work out.

Dean Forbes suggested double checking with Eric Willey, but she believed there was only one eligible individual for the CFSC position now, so the LC election should be able to run with the others.

Community Team Bowling

Janicki reminded everyone about the Community Team's bowling outing that Saturday.

Milner merchandise

Dean Forbes reminded everyone to order their Milner merchandise, if interested, by the end of the month.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Skaggs at 9:37 a.m.

Submitted by C. Cilento
5 February 2026