

Provost's Library Advisory Committee

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 2:30 – 3:30pm
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees: Pamela Bedore, Iddo Ben-Ari, Thomas Briggs, Maureen Croteau, Jessica de Perio Wittman , Amy Dunbar, Haleh Ghaemolsabahi, Shinae Jang, Kristen Jones (recorder), Anne Langley, Khara Leon, Carolyn Lin, Ruth Lucas, Thomas Meyer, Michael Mundrane, Edward Neth, Nathanael Okpych, Thane Papke, Roxanne Peck, Lauren Slingluff, Mary Truxaw,

Absent: Sara Harrington, Peter Kaminsky, Sylvia Schafer, Olga Vinogradova

Welcome:

Anne Langley welcomed the committee at 2:32pm.

She then introduced our new AUL for Collections & Discovery Roxanne Peck.

Introductions continued around the room.

Approval of meeting minutes from April 30, 2020

Maureen Croteau moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 30, 2020. The motion was seconded by Carolyn, all approved.

Dean's Updates- Anne Langley

Anne thanked Olga Vinogradova for serving as the committee chair and she noted that appreciates all the work and support she has given the library during this time.

- *Reorganization Update-*

Shortly before Roxanne arrived, Anne presented phase 1 of a reorganization for the library. She chose not to reorganize as soon as she arrived, she instead wanted to wait and learn how the library operated, etc. Timing was right this September. The first objective was to align units that support students and faculty into Sara Harrington's area. Greenhouse Studios and Interlibrary services are now within the Academic Engagement area.

The second objective was to provide support for our collections. Archives & Special Collections and Digital Imaging & Conservation, Acquisitions & Discovery and the Collection Strategist are now in Roxanne's area of Collections & Discovery. This means that Rebecca Parmer, Michael Bennett, Jane Strudwick and Michael Rodriguez report to Roxanne.

The third objective aligns digital preservation, archival services and the CTDA. Greg Colati is now the unit head and Director of the Digital Preservation Repository Program and reports to Lauren Slingluff.

The fourth objective is to enhance how we make decisions and be more deliberate so the Coordinator for Library Research & Assessment, Susanna Cowan, was moved to Lauren's area.

All these changes are currently reflected in our organizational charts on our website.

- *Future of Journals Committee-*

Carl and Anne pulled this committee together to look at how we are offering article-based journals to the university. When Carl started at the end of May, Anne did not want to present it to him right away. We gave him a tour of the library and talked a lot about the budget situation of the University and the Library. Carl wanted to work closely with a group of faculty to think radically about how UConn students, faculty and staff get the info they need. We

had an open conversation about how we can support this with the money that we have. The group has met twice so far and are meeting weekly until the end of November. The library is also doing its due diligence to meet our obligations. Part of what we want to do and spend money on is to make sure users get immediate access to what they need. Anne appreciates Carl's willingness to help.

Anne added that per the Provost's request, we sent a document that lists three or four things that we have had to stop doing due to budget cuts. Over 8 million dollars has been cut from the budget over the last several years. He is aware that we are short on staff. Anne also expressed that we do not have staff resources to manage people in the building this fall to reopen. Carl approved money for short term monitors that will allow us to open a couple of floors. He also gave us an additional \$500,000 to add to our base budget to use at our discretion for non-collection related costs. This will enable us to hire 3 subject liaisons in the spring.

Associate Dean's Updates- Lauren Slingluff

- *COVID Updates*

Lauren reported that we originally thought we would not open any space this fall. But after some talks with the Provost's office and other faculty, we realized students need space for studying. We are not open to outside community members. We are managing capacity and adhering to safety guidelines with reserved seating, plexiglass at service desks, directional signage and stickers and increased the number of hand sanitizers available. All libraries are open except for the music and dramatic arts library. Our monitors are estimated to cost \$130,000. Hathi Trust have made materials available free to any institution whose stacks remained closed.

Budget presentation- (*see attachment #1*)

Hiring Update- Khara Leon

Khara presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the hiring updates. (See attachment #2).

PLAC Chair Nomination

Anne reported that Kristen received one volunteer for committee chair for the 2020-2021 academic year and that was Carolyn Lin. Kristen will submit this to the Provost for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Jones
Assistant to the Dean