

Provost's Library Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2021

1:30 – 3:00pm

WebEx

Attendees:

Iddo Ben-Ari, Jessica de Perio Wittman, Amy Dunbar, Sara Harrington, Shinae Jang, Kristen Jones (recorder), Peter Kaminsky, Anne Langley, Khara Leon, Carolyn Lin (Chair), Ruth Lucas, Thomas Meyer, Michael Mundrane, Ed Neth, Nate Okpych, Thane Papke, Susan Payne, Roxanne Peck, Lauren Slingluff, Olga Vinogradova

The meeting began at 1:30pm with a welcome from the Chair, Carolyn Lin.

February 22, 2021 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Olga Vinogradova. The motion was seconded by Michael Mundrane, unanimously approved.

Hiring Update: *See Attachment*

Carolyn suggested new hires in the library be introduced to the committee if relevant.

Anne noted that all these new hires and positions are filling vacancies except for 3 research services subject liaisons. Those positions are funded by permanent money from the Provost's office given to us last August.

CL-Are other peer libraries experiencing the same budget cuts that we are? AL-yes. Budgets tend to be flat, but libraries must deal with inflation on collections, so we are actually losing money.

CL-Curious to know what happens when universities decide to end contracts with Elsevier. Roxanne Peck answered that most would subscribe to high use journals and use ILL for everything else. Other universities like the California system have cut ties with Elsevier to support open access. They recently entered into a new contract that is an open access agreement with them. We are exploring all options to see what is most viable for UConn that will have the least impact on researchers and students and faculty.

Budget presentation—*See Attachment*

Q&A

OV-Wondered what portion of the salary savings goes to collections. How much has been transferred? LS-Would have to go back and pull the transfer information. It varies from year to year, but it is closer to 2 million dollars of salary savings that has been used to support collections in the last 7 years. Used both for one time access and perpetual access. OV-Might be helpful to have this info represented next time.

CL-Do you do the same presentation at the University Senate? AL-I will be giving a similar one to the Senate Budget Committee on March 29 but not to the University Senate.

AD-The school of business went through accreditation recently and the issue of library support came up for journals. Is there a university level accreditation and is this something that people have thought about from a scholarship perspective? AL-there is not a university level requirement for the library. LS-NEASC standards used to be very specific about library support but it was greatly watered down 4-5 years ago.

AL- Lauren did a study on fringe rates at other academic institutions and found that we have one of the highest if not the highest rate. Hard to compare because some libraries don't pay for it, or it's paid centrally, their fringe is lower, or they are given a budget for it.

LS-For some of our classified employees, their fringe is 110%. Unfunded pension liability is causing a lot of this issue in the state.

Breakout Sessions

Anne asked that breakout session reporters send their topic ideas to Kristen.

Announcements: none

Thane Papke motioned to adjourn the meeting, Nate Okpych seconded, motion to adjourn approved unanimously at 2:47pm.