

Provost's Library Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Homer Babbidge Library, OVP Conference Room

Attendees: Martha Bedard, Pamela Bedore, Patrick Carr (guest), Maureen Croteau (chair), Colleen Delaney, Amy Dunbar, Erika Elechicon, Kate Fuller (guest), Kristen Jones (recorder), Kyu-Hwan Lee, Carolyn Lin, Samantha Mairson, Anita Morzillo, Edward Neth, Thane Papke, Holly Phillips, Sylvia Schafer, Rebecca Thomas, Mary Truxaw

Absent: Monica Bock, Shinae Jang, Joan Smyth, Olga Vinogradova

Welcome/Introduction

The meeting began at 12:09pm with Vice Provost Martha Bedard thanking the committee for showing such a strong commitment and returning to participate in PLAC for this academic year. Proceeded with introductions around the room.

Vice Provost's Remarks

Martha continued by announcing that there are a lot of issues on the table and there will be more as the year goes on. She reviewed the status of the library budget which has been reduced over the last three years by over two million dollars.

Last year Martha announced that the Provost had approved a hiring plan. We have lost 41 positions over the last 10 years. We are now moving forward in several areas which are: STEM Librarian, Entrepreneur and Innovation Librarian, Head of Metadata & Discovery, Head of Licensing & Acquisitions, Access Services Librarian for the Stamford campus, Digital Scholarship & Repository Analyst, Special Collections Research Services Assistant, Geospatial Archivist, IT Services Assistant. Martha noted that our IT department currently services over 800 computers across the campus. She also noted that we had almost 12,000 patrons in the library one-day last week which is a record for a non-finals week day. The Provost is aware of our staff needs. The impact has been seen on reduced staffing, services and collections. The Dean of CLAS is supplementing year's collection budget by \$500,000 and next year the Provost has committed to continue that at \$500,000. There is still a significant shortfall.

Martha also updated the group that Jill Livingston is now the Assistant University Librarian for Research & Curriculum. A question was asked about when online training will be available and will it involve resources that are discipline specific. Kate Fuller responded that we are in the first stage of general instruction online and then subject specialists will do more in depth instruction after that.

Martha also reported that we are moving our streaming services over to Mediasite and Easy Proxy outsourcing is in process and will be in place by the end of the year.

Committee Chair Remarks—M. Croteau

Maureen Croteau reported that she met with the Senate Executive Committee several weeks ago and noted that they have concerns about the state of the library budget and its future. Maureen found that they do not have a clear view of what has happened over the last few years because it's hard to understand the budget. They also had concerns over the reserve services. They do not understand that certain budgets can only be spent on certain things. They see money being spent on a Makerspace and think that we should be spending on eReserve services. Maureen suggested providing specific data points in a neutral, transparent way that would compare us to our peer institutions. She also noted that it does not appear that we receive our percentage of research foundation money. We also need to decide if we are interested in proposing a student library fee again.

Amy Dunbar mentioned that we should know what student fees are being charged and how do they compare with fees from other peer institutions. Holly Phillips explained that she has gathered that information already and found that other school may charge much more in fees, however, they have a lower tuition. Martha added that we have put a lot of energy into open educational resources. USG President, Dan Byrd, is now taking a course because the faculty member researched the material and made sure it was already in the library.

Erika Elechicon asked when a library fee would go into effect. Martha answered that the process is cyclical. If any kind of fee is approved by the Board of Trustees, it would be in the context of a package of fees and would be effective the following fall semester most likely.

Martha reported that we get our money from the academic areas of the University, not the research side. According to Scott Jordan's presentation, only 1.5% of the University budget comes from donors. We are just starting to work on the infrastructure for internal fundraising that is common in our peer institutions. Thane Papke thought it would be worth the effort to engage faculty to talk with their department heads.

Amy Dunbar noted that it would be great if this group could decide what budget information to make transparent and available like the library did with the collections review.

Carolyn Lin asked if the consensus here was to communicate to faculty what our needs are. She suggested we use data visualization to communicate better with faculty and that facetime matters. Sylvia Schafer warned to be careful with the "what do you want" questions. Should illustrate what's happened over the last five years and the PLAC agendas and show what we are working on.

Maureen said she would email everyone and ask what data points everyone wants to see, how should we approach faculty and students on what they need for the future and she will include suggestions already made.

Approval of Minutes from April 14, 2016

Patrick Carr noted that he was not in attendance at that meeting. Approved as amended.

Support for electronic access to library-based curriculum materials—K. Fuller

Due to time constraints the agenda order was changed.

Martha reminded everyone that we had to change this service because we are looking at everything we do in order to find efficiencies. An environmental scan revealed a significant amount of universities have moved away from this reserves model. The number of available electronic resources have increased tremendously. Learning management systems are much more sophisticated now and it costs us \$500,000/year to maintain this service as it is. We have communicated this change in a number of ways to faculty. A positive outcome will be that faculty will have more autonomy. We hear that they are worried about copyright violations but we are creating ways to demonstrate that it's not really that complicated. If you are using a library material, it is already licensed.

Kate Fuller reported that the main support is in place. Our subject librarians have been reaching out to department heads and have created straightforward instructions. There are several ways to make electronic resources available to students and our goal was to make it as easy as possible. All of our chat librarians are knowledgeable with this as well and can assist. Kate then demonstrated how to create permalinks on our webpage here: <http://lib.uconn.edu/teach-learn/course-reserves/>

Collection Development Policy & Strategy—P. Carr

Patrick Carr reported on the new Collection Development Policy and that it was created and adopted last December/January. The living document will provide parameters to manage and develop collections. The Collection Steering Committee meets monthly and continues to improve the policy. This policy pertains to our general collections in Storrs and the regionals only. He noted that there is a deselection section because it appears as though UConn has never weeded materials and we are in need of doing this in order to maintain a collection that is vibrant, relevant, and usable. See the policy here:

<http://lib.uconn.edu/about/policies/collection-development-program-policies-and-guidelines/>

Several committee members voiced concern over possible weeding of important or archival materials. Suggestion was made for how to go about weeding in a thoughtful way that ensures for responsible stewardship of collections.

Masterplan Update—H. Phillips

Holly Phillips quickly reported on masterplan updates. She noted that space changes will require collection changes and we are looking at it holistically and how it is arranged in the building. We will be reducing the collection footprint by about 30% but that does not necessarily mean reducing collections. Compact shelving and incorporating the physical collection into the design will help accomplish this.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Jones

Assistant to the Vice Provost