

Minutes of the Library and Learning Resources Committee (LLRC) Meeting

September 15, 2011 – 3:00-4:25 PM / Room 204, Curtis Laws Wilson Library

- I. Call to order
- II. Elect a Chair (note: the Chair must be a tenured faculty member and will also serve the campus as a non-voting member of the Rules, Procedure, and Agenda (RP&A) Committee of the Faculty Senate)
- III. Update on the materials acquisition budget
- IV. Update on the journal pruning process
- V. Making theses/dissertation submission to Scholar's Mine mandatory
- VI. Adjourn

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Ed Malone at 3:05 p.m.

Present: Edward Malone, Alexey Yamilov, Jun Fan, Gearoid MacSithigh, Tom Schuman, Maggie Trish, and Andy Stewart

Student Council: Not Present

Council of Graduate Students: Not Present

2. Election of a Chair

The first item of business was to elect a new chair. After some discussion on eligibility, Ed made a motion to nominate Gearoid and Alexey seconded the motion. Gearoid agreed to accept the nomination. There being no other nominees, the motion was passed that Gearoid fill the Chair position for the coming year.

3. Materials Acquisition Budget

Andy provided handouts to the group, copies of which are included with the minutes. The first page is an organization chart of the library. Andy pointed out the areas that are still vacant and mentioned that the library did plan to actively pursue filling the Technology Services Librarian position in the coming year.

The next document is a comparison of the materials budget versus two other price indexes over the past several years. Andy mentioned that last year the library asked the Chancellor for a new student fee. Later, an additional \$100,000 was received as one-time money. Ed cited the letter drafted and sent by this committee in support of the library and requesting no budget cut this year. Andy thanked the committee for their support and further stated we have always received strong support from this committee and Chancellor Carney. The \$100,000 was not cut from the current budget and was given to the library as rate money. Tom Schuman mentioned that larger cuts, all across the campus, are probably due to hit in 2013.

The last document Andy presented was a comparison of the operating budgets across the four UM system campuses. Tom asked if the library paid for the UM centrally funded larger electronic packages. Maggie explained that LSO pays for the overall package and negotiates vendor by vendor. The library system pays about \$2 million for the four campuses. Maggie went on to explain that the \$100,000 received is being used to fulfill the wish lists from the departments.

The only money spent so far was to purchase Films on Demand to support blended and online learning with streaming educational videos. There are approximately 6,000 titles from BBC, NOVA, and PBS for example.

Gearoid asked if the request for the films came from the humanities departments. Maggie advised it had not. The library was in the process of converting much of the VHS tape collection over to DVD. It has proven to be less expensive than purchasing some of the DVD sets. Maggie explained that Films on Demand plans to add approximately 600 titles a year to this platform. Both Gearoid and Alexey said this information needs to get out to the faculty and possibly by way of eConnection. Maggie wanted to get EdTech's assistance in reviewing and getting a tutorial ready prior to any announcement. Gearoid thought the faculty would like to have a look even before any tutorials for the students were completed.

4. Journal Pruning Process

Maggie told the group that the pruning process was done virtually the same as last year and is based on usage and price paid. This year we are making a slight change, which is to evaluate those titles the departments might wish to add at the same time that we consider eliminating titles. The current list was based on low to no use over the last three years and ranked by price in descending order. Once the statistics are gathered, a list generated, and then the draft letter approved by the committee, the list with letter will be distributed to the faculty. Maggie noted that on the spreadsheet list that indicated zero usage from the last three years, there were three that had one use so far in 2011. Statistics are gathered based on the calendar year and not the academic year. Also noted on the spreadsheet are titles that now have digital editions. Tom noted that the JCT journal is accessed online through the personal subscriptions of the faculty. Maggie indicated that the trend for online usage is trending up and print usage is trending down. Tom also indicated that JCT may be available through another vendor and gave Maggie some additional information. She will pursue this further to see what would be available for the students.

Ed asked if there were any reoccurring requests coming through ILL with enough frequency to justify a subscription. Maggie indicated that she receives a list from ILL every year of higher volume requests. Currently the "Transactions of American Foundry men" was high on the list, however, Maggie has been unable to find an on-line resource. Maggie will provide a copy of the spreadsheet and draft letter to accompany the meeting minutes.

5. Thesis/Dissertation Submission

Maggie made a presentation on the thesis and dissertation process as related to Scholar's Mine. She informed the group that meetings with Technology Transfer, the Graduate Office, and the Office of Sponsored Programs had been on-going to look at how theses are being processed. The library hears from students that they don't know that their thesis is on hold or why it can't be placed in the Mine. Some students have also been told by their advisor not to submit their thesis. One of the major issues we are facing is the number of theses that are on hold. There are no electronic copies of this information and preservation, as well as public access, is difficult in this situation. Copyright clearance is also a problem. While it is mandated in the S&T specifications, copyright is not being reviewed. Also, there is no automated process for submission. Alexey asked Maggie to explain a hold. Today the thesis submission form allows the advisor to place the thesis on a hold status to prevent public release. This could be due to pending patents or proprietary information. Currently, the library has 150 theses on hold, dating back to 1995, and the number of holds is growing every day.

There was a lengthy discussion about how the research process works between the student and advisor, whether there are current submission guidelines to fit student needs and proprietary information from corporate sponsors. Tom stated his

understanding was that the university held copyright. Maggie indicated that was not correct. The student, as the author, owns copyright on the work they have done.

The library researched how peer institutions are handling their theses and dissertations. Maggie indicated that it would benefit the students and the university to get in front of this process. Other universities handle these issues before the thesis is written. They talk with the students and sponsors to understand their needs. Other institutions such as MU, Georgia Tech and MIT make this process work. There was discussion about public access and the fact that funding sponsors may not want papers released due to proprietary information.

Tom indicated his understanding of copyright came from older faculty and librarians from about 12 years ago. Maggie advised that Roger Weaver is our copyright specialist and available to the faculty any time. Ed asked what Maggie needed from the group to proceed. Maggie offered that faculty opinion was important. She will send out the slides to the group for further review. Maggie did state that any change to the process won't be happening immediately. She is meeting with graduate coordinators tomorrow to review this same proposal. Tom commented that the changes need to come through administration. There may be some push back from faculty that industrial funding could be lost. Tom felt that faculty just needed to be educated on what needs to be done in a more formal process.

6. Review Action Items

- 1) Set Next Meeting Date
- 2) Ed will notify Mitsy Daniels of new chair
- 3) Maggie finalize pruning letter
- 4) Maggie investigate JCT online

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.