Library Council
Meeting: Monday, February 8, 2021
3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
Via Zoom
https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/3077663641

Council Members Present: Melissa Hunter (Chair), Jihyun Lee, Amy Pearce, Sara Davis, Brenda Alexander, Bob Sprague, Rachel Crocker, Dana Caulton, Ivan Gaetz, Cass Kvenild, Kaijsa Calkins, and Debbie McCarthy
Support Staff: Rochelle Hayes

1. **Call to Order:**
   Melissa called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Library Council members were welcomed and introductions made.

2. **Review of Previous Minutes:**
   The Council minutes from the previous meeting were approved without further discussion.

3. **Issues from Library Council (as per Senate Regs.):**
   There were no issues from the colleges.

4. **General Library Updates:**
   a. Ithaka Study and "Big Deals" – Kaijsa Calkins:
   The University Libraries participated in a multi-institution study with Ithaka S & R, a non-profit organization that conducts surveys and research within the library academic field. The study conducted dealt with faculty perception regarding the topic of cancelling "big deal" journal package subscriptions, which libraries often subscribe to. Half of the participants have dealt with cancelling big deal subscriptions while the other half have not. Currently, the libraries have renewed subscriptions for three years and have not cancelled any big deal subscriptions, although may have to in the future depending on budget cuts.

   The full report will be shared when it becomes published and available; however, some notable particulars regarding the study are included below.
   - Participants in the study:
     - Eleven public and private universities of various sizes within the U.S. and Germany
     - Mostly tenured faculty that incorporate a large amount of research within their job descriptions
     - Faculty with gender and rank diversity
   - Journals chosen in the study are primarily Elsevier journals and focus primarily on the discipline of biological sciences.

- Some trends/findings from the study:
    - Scholars generally pursue the record version of the journal articles and do not rely too heavily on access versions or preprints.
    - Person-to-person channels or ILL are used more when obtaining materials rather than illegal methods. However confusion exists when determining what is legal versus illegal when sharing and/or obtaining copy write protected materials.
    - Disciplines vary when utilizing archival materials.
    - Cohorts that had not experienced a previous cancellation of a big deal demonstrated stronger negative reactions to a future cancellation of a big deal, than from the cohorts that have already experienced previous cancellations.
        - The main concern was that there might be a loss in efficiency by having to wait for access to material, despite ILL's ability to obtain material at a faster rate than in the past.
    - Perceptions of cancellations didn't diminish perception of the libraries itself but of the overall institution
- Suggestions to the libraries by cohorts made when experiencing a big deal cancellation include:
    - Offering a venue for discussion that includes bi-directional feedback opportunities such as town halls, department meetings, meetings with subject librarians
    - Providing the ability to view data of usage trends
    - Providing the ability to complete surveys or review-proposed cancellations
    - Providing more transparency
- There were findings regarding open access models but these will be discussed further at the next council meeting.
    - Bob will provide a link that will include the latest revision of a statement that addresses "predatory open access," derived from recommendations to the Business College during their AACSB reaccreditation.
    - Ivan will send out further information regarding open access and repositories.

Overall, this study was useful to the libraries to assist with anticipated budget concerns, decision-making, and how to communicate with faculty in the event difficult decisions need to be made.

It was noted that the campus community might not fully realize how much the libraries actually pays for nor the vast types and amounts of journal subscriptions used. Dropping them or having an interruption in content causes a disruption for faculty.

Lastly, if needed, the libraries has a tool that shows what journals we have access to versus what is actually being used. If a big deal package becomes eliminated, individual journals within the package can still be purchased individually. However, it has been historically cheaper for the libraries to purchase the entire package rather than individual journals.

b. <u>Kudos to ILL</u>
Kudos to the three employees in ILL for being recently named as being in the top 10% ILL units, globally, that have consistently delivered articles within 18 hours or less. Also, in the event that subscriptions become cancelled or there is a dramatic budget change, ILL has already prepared by cross training additional employees to assist with workload increases.

c. <u>UW Libraries Searches – Cass Kvenild</u>:
The libraries is currently seeking to fill four librarian positions prior to July. The interview process has been completed for the Digital Scholarship Librarian. Screening for the Collection Development, and Learning and Engagement Librarians have taken place. The Carol J. McMurry Endowed Academic Excellence Librarian has just been posted. Representatives from the Honors College along with Paul Banks, a member of the McMurry family will participate in the screening/interviewing team for this position.

d. <u>FY21-22 Budget Issues: Budgeting Collections Budget – Debbie McCarthy</u>:
Debbie shared what criteria is being used when balancing the collections budget. Most of the cuts will reflect continuing and electronic resources, which includes the significant majority of the budget.
- Criteria include:
    - Use – circulation data for physical and usage data for online, both at UW and with the state, for shared resources
    - Accessibility – does the vendor comply with current guidelines
    - Uniqueness – do we have other coverage available for this area, and is there any overlap
    - Access method – IP range and WyoWeb authentication, and allowing for walk-in users
    - Cost – one-time, recurring, and can we negotiate a lower price
    - Faculty preference – where do our faculty publish
    - Curriculum – track programs under review for targeted reductions of specialized resources
    - Faculty publications – where do our faculty publish
    - ILL – are there any journals we request articles from too frequently
- Priorities include:
    - Preserving full-text access (journals)
    - Electronic or online is the default format, unless there is a high cost to access an issue. Formats are not duplicated, but ILL and Prospector are

available for those who prefer print. Print formats are acquired when electronic is not available, and when dealing with Special Collections.

- o Significantly reduce one-time expenditures in the short term while meeting current needs
- o Transition monographic purchases from just-in-case buying to just-in-time
- o Promote open access materials, particularly Open Textbooks and other Open Educational Resources (OER)

The vast majorities of e-books are one-year licenses and are available to one person at a time (single-user). If only a few chapters are going to be used, then it is best to download it in order to free it up for the next person. However, user models vary from publisher to publisher and aggregator to aggregator. Example, three-person user and multi-user models exist as well along with other models.

For any individual, unique or specialized needs that members or groups have for their respective colleges/units, Debbie and Ivan are willing to meet and discuss. Also, if you need an e-book for a class assignment, you may contact Debbie in advance due to various models, access limitations, or other circumstances or email Coeref@uwyo.edu.

5. **UW's Strategic Visioning – Ivan:**
Ivan discussed the status of the Libraries' Strategic Visioning document. Remarks from members have been incorporated, and the final draft of the document will be submitted to the President/Provost's Office in about two weeks. The document primarily focuses on the four pillars and serves as a living document, which will be used in key development over the next ten plus years. In addition, university working groups have been created to help develop and explain what the pillars mean for the university.

Of the four pillars, "Entrepreneurial activities" is the weakest pillar for the libraries. However, the libraries has an interest in the underlying computing system that sources Blockchain, (an initiative that the university is pursuing) as well as how open resources and technology can be adapted and integrated into this type of system.

It was pointed out that the libraries do support the entrepreneurial pillar but in an indirect manner. It does so through its support of research funded by grants, which then subsequently results in bringing additional funds in. The libraries offer the necessary databases and allocations of resources to allow this to happen, support of those who do bring in the money, as well as promote professionalism. In addition, the libraries have statewide resources that cover entrepreneurial efforts due to its close relationship with the state library.

It was also suggested that another way to incorporate "entrepreneurial activities" into the libraries is to embed a librarian within a small business start-up (or other similar types of

initiatives with partnerships) to help assist with the navigation of resources and systems that others may be unfamiliar with. Even though this does not bring funds in directly, it does support the efforts that do. The libraries currently have budgeted over $1 million for statewide access to the collections, which can also help support the Wyoming community in these types of endeavors.

6. **Other Business:**
What is the status on this year's OER Grants? The fall awards have just been announced, but the spring ones have a deadline in March and can still be applied for. Note: there is not a deadline for the development for implementation, therefore a person can be awarded funding now, but can actually implement it later depending on the project.

7. **Meetings for 2020-2021:**
The next meeting will be held at 3:15 p.m. (via Zoom) on the following date:
   * April 5, 2021 - *tentatively*

8. **Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

9. **Useful links:**
   * Blockchain Basics in LinkedIn Learning: https://www.linkedin.com/learning/blockchain-basics/welcome-and-introduction?u=41995628

   * San Jose State University Blockchain: Blockchain MOOC - SJSU - School of Information

   * Sparc Big deal database: https://sparcopen.org/our-work/big-deal-knowledge-base/.

   * GoWYLD Databases A - Z (libguides.com)

   * Bob's enthusiasm for the Wall Street Journal subscription: log in here with UW credentials for full access or use the mobile app with UW credentials http://wsj.com/UWYO.