UW Library Council

Meeting: Monday, December 2, 2024
Coe Library Room 506 + Zoom
3:15 – 4:30 pm

Council Members Present: Rebecca Carron (Chair), Brenda Alexander, Kaijsa Calkins, Brianna (Bree) Doering, Chad Hutchins, Ginny Kilander, Cass Kvenild, Jihyun Lee, Jamie Markus, Paula Martin, Katharine Tekyl

1. Call to Order: Rebecca Carron called the meeting to order. Library Council members were welcomed and introductions made. Welcome to Lucy Carter, Libraries Dean's Office Associate.

2. Review of Agenda - Rebecca

3. Review of Previous Council Notes (10.08.24): Brenda Alexander moved to approve the minutes, Bree Doering seconded, motion passed.

4. UW Libraries Personnel Updates – Paula Martin
   a. New faculty hires and open searches

      Megan Moma, Library Specialist, Studio Coe

      Open Searches:
      - Collection Management Librarian is reviewing applications
      - Special Collections Librarian is conducting first-round interviews
      - Library Assistant Sr., Education and Research Services is conducting interviews
      - Library Assistant Sr., RDM has finished interviewing

5. UW Libraries updates
   a. Discussion and background on a [shared print digitization initiative](#) with the Internet Archive and the Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST) (Jamie Markus, Assistant Dean of Resource Discovery & Management)

      The University of Wyoming libraries are participating in a Western States Storage Trust (WEST) pilot project over the next year. This project will take 400 titles, roughly 4,000 items, out of our collections and send them to the Internet Archive for digitization. Once digitized, the items will be made available to UW and other WEST member libraries for immediate interlibrary loan. All of these items are found in the library annex and have very little use; there will be no loss of access. In fact, we are increasing the speed of access to this material. Although the physical items will be destroyed during digitization, other WEST libraries are committed to holding these titles in print.

      Questions:
      Rebecca Carron inquired about the availability of the list. Brenda Alexander asked how the list was created and who was responsible for compiling it. WEST provided a list for

evaluation. Both Brenda Alexander and Rebecca Carron raised concerns about specific titles they hoped would not be removed. For instance, home journals like *Better Homes & Gardens* were highlighted as crucial sources of social history, especially during the WWII period. B. Alexander also emphasized the importance of another journal, *Sheep Research*, which should not be overlooked.

Cass emphasized that this is a great opportunity to close the gap in digitized journals and establish a bridge between UW and the Internet Archive.

b. Discussion and updates on the digital newspaper project (Chad Hutchens, Chair of Digital Collections)

UW has two mass newspaper digitization projects. The first is funded by the NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities) and is in its third cycle. At the end of the third cycle in Sept, 2025, we'll have digitized ~300,000 pages all of which are openly accessible on the Library of Congress's Chronicling America platform at https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/. Our other project is funded internally. To date, we've digitized ~5.5mil pages and that content is available at https://wyomingnewspapers.org/ with some copyright restrictions for non-UW users (content older than 95 years is openly accessible to anyone who registers on the site). This is a collaboration between UW Libraries, the WY State Library, and in partnership with the CO Virtual Library.

There are many people using our site like former UW President, Phil Dubois!

6. Issues from Library Council Members (per Faculty Senate Regs) – (Rebecca)
   a. Academic Writer – Rebecca Carron announced that Academic Writer will be available to students beginning Jan. 1st through the UW Library. The students enjoy using it to help format their writing assignments.

7. Other Council Business:
   a. Wyoming Data Repository (Chad)

   The UW Libraries and ARCC (Advanced Research Computing Center) received $30,000 in funding from the WIP DataHub initiative to build a shared data repository for UW and all Wyoming Community Colleges. It is simply called the Wyoming Data Repository (WDR) and it is available at https://dataverse.arcc.uwyo.edu/ We chose the Dataverse platform which is an open source application developed by the Institute for Qualititative Social Science at Harvard University. Although the UW Libraries and ARCC have been publishing and curating research data since 2015, this new platform is not only built to handle research data, it has many advanced features that our previous platforms did not offer. Publishing and sharing data in WDR is offered as a free service of the UW Libraries and ARCC for all UW faculty, students, and other researchers.

8. Next Meeting will be Monday, February 3, 2025, with calendar invitation and agenda to come.

9. Adjourn