

Library Council
Meeting: Monday, December 2, 2019
Room #506, Coe Library

Present: Bob Sprague, Cass Kvenild, David Kruger, Taylor Olson, Ed Sherline, Amy Pearce, Dana Caulton, Melissa Hunter, Jihyun Lee, Shaun Wulff, Andrea Burrows, and Rochelle Hayes (Recording Secretary).

1. Call to Order:

Bob Sprague (filling in for Molly Marcusse) called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. All new and returning Library Council members were welcomed and introductions made.

2. Selection of New Chair:

Bob announced that due to Molly's departure from the University, the Library Council would be taking nominations for a new member to serve as Chair. Melissa Hunter was nominated to serve Chair. A motion was made and seconded, with all in favor that Melissa would serve as Chair of the Library Council.

3. Review of Agenda:

The agenda was reviewed with no further discussion.

4. Review of Previous Council Minutes:

The Council minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no further discussion.

5. Issues from Library Council (as per Senate Regs.):

Melissa explained that one of roles of the Library Council is to voice any concerns from the University departments/units. If there are any needs from members, they may email her or faculty senate with that information.

6. General Library Updates (Cass Kvenild):

Cass Kvenild, Associate Dean of Libraries gave the Library Updates. She first expressed gratitude towards the University for allowing an early closure during the Thanksgiving Break due to extreme weather conditions. She reminded Library Council that if they can think of anything that can be improved within the Libraries, they could send the requests to her.

Search for Assistant Dean of Libraries of User Services: Due to the retirement of Cheryl Goldenstein, Assistant Dean of Libraries of User Services, the Libraries is in the process of conducting a search for Cheryl's replacement. The position will be posted externally sometime in late January to early February. Members of the Library Council are invited to attend search-related seminars if interested.

Meeting with ASUW Leadership: Ivan Gaetz, Dean of Libraries met with the ASUW students on November 22nd. They discussed expenditures for FY19 and FY20 along with how their student fees were being spent. For FY19, approximately \$100,000 had been spent on reconstruction, provision of new furnishings, and implementation of technology in study rooms, Studio Coe, and various spaces throughout the Libraries. FY20 expenditures are currently being used (or proposed) to purchase new furniture to replace outdated 10-year old furniture, equipment in the Student Innovation Center and Studio Coe, for collections in the Honors College, and for the creation of future spaces for innovative learning.

In addition, Ivan introduced a proposal to the ASUW students involving the creation of an Open Education Council (OEC) regarding Open Educational Resources (OER). The students were both supportive of OEC and agreed to assist with providing student representation. (*Refer to **Open Education Council (OEC)** for further information*).

Alyson Hagy Author Talk: Alyson Hagy's author talk was held November 12th in the McMurry Reading Room and had a very successful turnout of approximately 75 attendees. A question was asked why this event was so well attended. The response was that Alyson did quite a bit of self-marketing, especially internally within the department she works for. There are additional author talks in the process of being planned to occur during the upcoming spring semester.

7. **Open Education Council (OEC):**

- a. Purpose/Scope: Cass shared an initiative that Ivan would like to propose to the University that would be called the (OEC). OEC would be wide in scope and membership as well as have the support from the Provost. The function of OEC would be to assist the promotion and advocating of funding while collaborating with other educators to understand and promote the direct development of "Open" educational resources (OER) and services. Initially, the concept of OEC began as an offshoot from recommendations made from Mark Lyford's OER Task Force.
- b. Membership: Potentially, those who would be included in the collaboration with OEC would include librarians, administrators, faculty, and ASUW students. ASUW has already expressed their commitment to help drive efforts. Again, the goal is that OEC would build a more broad coalition of support.
- c. Discussion from Library Council Members: Discussion questions, comments, and concerns from members regarding OEC as well as OER are included as follows:
 - **A concern arose whether OEC would be mandated or not, since OER may not be available to some of the disciplines on campus, such as the Pharmacy College where faculty members are unable to change due to an existing bias against OER.** The responding comment was that it would make sense to

incorporate both student and faculty input for low to no cost resources when making any future decisions.

- **A concern was addressed regarding the quality and value of OER.** For example, it was mentioned that even though students may take advantage of an electronic version of a textbook, faculty might not do so due to the textbook being a non-standard resource, especially in the technical fields. An additional comment was made that if someone pays for something, then that item has value, however, if that item is free, then it no longer has the same value.
- **Are there other ways to reduce costs for students other than OER textbooks, such as free technology?** Yes there are. It was mentioned that there are instructional repositories (both library and non-librarian sources) available on campus which can assist in providing open resources to students, as well as residents throughout the state. In addition, open source library systems are a viable alternative.
- **What about subsidized national tests and how do they factor in OER?** It was mentioned that students often have a desire to take practice tests in preparation for subsidized national tests but often end up having to buy them. OER could possibly assist students in obtaining these practice tests.
- **What is the status of the University Press? Is the Scholarship Repository part of OER as well?** Yes, it was mentioned that the Scholarship Repository is part of OER and both it as well as the University Press are growing in popularity, although not so much with faculty scholarship.
- **Some students may not be able to attend regular courses at the University for whatever reason. Can these materials still be made available to them?** Yes, it was mentioned that this scenario is exactly what OEC/OER would like to accomplish; providing materials for those who are not currently enrolled but are still engaged community members.
- **Would discounted tuition be incorporated for students and non-students alike?** It was suggested that it might be possible to see if the Wyoming State Department of Education can assist with tuition for both types of attendees.

Other concerns or comments brought up during the discussion by Library Council members regarding OEC/OER include:

- **Copyright issues**
- **Alternative methods to attending a course (such as via Zoom)**

- Addressing students who are considered “attendees” but who fit outside the scope as a customary student
- Existing support for OER from traditional textbook resources providers such as the University Bookstore

d. Motion by Library Council (if supported):

A motion to support OEC was not made by members of the Library Council. However, it was recommended that more information be provided to the Library Council, perhaps in the form of a charge letter or addendum to these minutes with the following information:

- Background context of OEC
- Library Council’s role with OEC and how closely would the two groups work together
- How results of OER services and products would affect the Library Council

8. Other Business:

Kanopy: A concern came up regarding how the Libraries can make Kanopy, a movie streaming service that the Libraries subscribes to, more accessible and known to prospective users. The concern was that the service was difficult to locate among the other services the Libraries offer, which include over 800 databases. In addition, the service would appear to be ideal to access over the holidays especially due to an increase of movies being viewed as well as faculty working on their syllabi.

A recommendation was made that it might be helpful if the Libraries send out a “*Did you know?*” e-mail to faculty and staff that notify users of different services or updates the Libraries have. This e-mail can be short with limited or no text and perhaps contain just a link. The response was that the Libraries’ Marketing and Communications Specialist and the Libraries’ Data Librarian are working on making the databases more accessible.

Another question regarding Kanopy was if the lack of familiarity had something to do with the feasibility of accessing it via online editions of the NY Times at the Libraries. The response was that both Kanopy and the NY Times could be accessed through different services; however, due to the format of the different services, browsing capabilities are limited. Another factor is that licensing dictates the format of the service.

9. Next Meetings:

The next meetings will be held at 3:15p.m., Room 506, Coe Library, on the following dates:

- February 3, 2020
- April 6, 2020

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.