

UW Library Council

Meeting: Monday, October 8, 2024

Coe Library Room 506 + Zoom

3:15 – 4:30 pm

Council Members Present: Rebecca Carron, Brenda Alexander, Ginny Kilander, Tracy McKormick, Jihyun Lee, Stephanie Cheng, Katharine Tekyl, Paula Martin, Jamie Markus, Kaijsa Calkins, Cass Kvenild

1. Call to Order: Rebecca Carron called the meeting to order. Library Council members were welcomed and introductions made.
2. Review of Previous Council Notes (04.01.24): B. Alexander moved to approve the minutes, McKormick seconded, motion passed.
3. UW Libraries Personnel Updates
 - a. New faculty hires and open searches (Paula Martin, Associate Dean)
Since our last meeting we have hired new faculty and staff, including:
 - Deborah White, digital collections librarian
 - Esther Perez, STEM digital scholarship librarian
 - Amanda Bugbee, discovery librarian
 - Cody Trask, Director of Business Operations
 - Cassie Reddick, library specialist (formerly a library assistant, senior)
 - Kendall Lowe, library specialist (formerly an office associate)
 - Alesha Mobley, library assistant, senior

David Kruger has agreed to serve as interim special collections librarian while we search for that position. We are also searching for an assistant dean of User Services, a collection management librarian, a library specialist for Studio Coe, an office associate, senior in the Dean's Office, and two library assistant, senior positions vacated by staff moving up!

The question was asked if we are using a search firm for searches. We are not currently doing so but would consider it for leadership roles.

4. UW Libraries updates
 - a. Strategic Plan for UW Libraries (Kaijsa Calkins, Assistant Dean of Education & Research Services)
The strategic plan is complete and on the Libraries web site at <https://www.uwyo.edu/libraries/about/administration/libraries-strategic-plan.html>.

A question was raised about the future of the Learning Resource Center (LRC) collection located in the Lab School if the school closes as planned in May 2025. UW Libraries will follow the decision-making process. We are preparing plans now so that if/when the school closes, we can determine where to locate the collection. We plan to

maintain the collection to support the College of Education and pre-service teachers. Moving this small but important curriculum collection to Coe Library would provide broader access more hours and more days of the week. If the school does not close but moves off campus, we will work with decision makers and any UW MOU to determine next steps. As collection decisions are made, we will communicate with stakeholders.

b. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) project (Paula)

A multi-departmental library committee investigated whether we should embark on RFID for the collection in the coming year. They compared RFID to our current electromagnetic inventory control system. There are many benefits to RFID, including possible self-serve pickup stations outside of the library and book returns that automatically update patron records. It would also be easy to inventory and find lost items via waving a wand, rather than touching each item. We are working with the vendor on a quote and also working to identify funding for the project. RFID conversion is the cheapest it has ever been. We plan to include Coe Library, the Geology Library, the Library Annex storage facility, and the Law Library if we proceed.

c. Collections updates (Jamie Markus, Assistant Dean of Resource Discovery & Management)

The Libraries are participating in a Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST) digitization project to send bound journals to the Internet Archive for digitization. IA will take the physical low-use journals to be digitized, then make them available to all WEST member libraries. We are working to identify what in the Library Annex is appropriate to share with IA and will come back to Library Council with more information. We expect to remove about 700 individual titles, with 2-1,000 issues of each journal. This will probably be 1-2 semi truckloads. This will create a permanent digital copy and free up space in the Annex for storing more journals.

The Libraries are working with vendors on contract language related to artificial intelligence (AI). The language is interesting and inconsistent from vendor to vendor. Jamie's team is working with UW General Counsel to make sure contract language about AI is reasonable and meets UW expectations. It is likely to be toned down and more consistent in future years but right now is the kind of the wild west.

Followup on the Elsevier negotiations last year: This contract is the Libraries largest cost, we purchase it through the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries. We are now paying 30% less than before with access to 15% fewer titles. This is a shared title list with Colorado libraries, so it includes some items that are low use at UW. We will have an opportunity to swap out titles at the next contract renewal.

Question from Council: B. Alexander has noticed some titles are missing. ILL feels like adding an extra step for accessing these. Jamie urged Council members to keep sharing these titles and communicating about gaps. We might be able to swap titles or to expand our access in future.

- d. Upcoming events and programs (Cass Kvenild, Dean)
 - i. There Is Happiness: Celebrating the Life of Brad Watson, October 23, 5 p.m., Coe Library Room 506 and Wyocast
 - ii. Oz-apolooza with John Fricke, Wizard of Oz scholar, October 24, 4 p.m., Coe Library Room 506 and zoom
 - iii. Giving Day October 23-24. Please follow UW Libraries on social media and share our call for gifts widely!
 - iv. Open Education Resources alternative textbook grant applications due October 30, 2024 at <https://www.uwyo.edu/libraries/help/support/instruction/open-education/index.html#alt-textbook>
 - v. Lots of workshops on topics like annotated bibliographies; finding primary sources; intermediate python; intro to coding; CV & resume refresh... find all events at <https://uwyo.libcal.com/>

5. Issues from Library Council Members (per Faculty Senate Regs) – (Rebecca)

Open textbook discussion on levels of adoption, especially now that the bookstore has their new buying program. There is definitely a mix of grant awards for open textbooks. Kaijsa shared that we have a new hosting service for faculty who want to use their own open textbooks. It is at <https://uwyo.pressbooks.pub/>

Question about other possible library events/ activities, including a suggestion for Halloween or trick or treat as well as Wyoming Snapshot Day.

7. Other Council Business:

- a. _____
- b. _____

8 Next Meeting will be Monday, December 2, 2024 with calendar invitation and agenda to come.