

University Library Advisory Council (ULAC)
Tuesday April 23, 2019 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Mills Library Community Room: Mills L304
Chair: Dr. T. Fetner

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Janice Adlington, Stephanie Bertolo, Neera Bhatnagar, Rita Cossa, Claude Eilers, Maryam Ghasemaghaei, Deda Gillespie, Shemar Hackett, James Ingram, Wolfram Kahl, Vivian Lewis, Chris McAllister, Andre Phillion, Leeanne Romane, Sarah Symons, Tim Wray, Gena Zuroski

Regrets: Jennifer McKinnell, Sherisse Webb

Guests: Jay Brodeur, Olga Perkovic, Anne Pottier

Minute Taker: Mary Hotson

- 1. Welcome and Introductions (T. Fetner)**
- 2. Review of Minutes from the December 2018 meeting (Document 1)**
 - Motion by Chair to accept as written, seconded by Leeanne Romane, all members in favour
- 3. Updates from the University Librarian (V. Lewis) (Document 2)**

Budget, Staffing, New Initiatives, etc.

 - Clarity to reduction in student hiring mentioned in December 2018 report (S. Bertolo) – reduction will affect a small number of students hired during summer term, academic term not affected.
- 4. Enhancing the First Year Experience (A. Pottier)**

[Presentation available here](#)

Questions & Feedback:

- i. Will there be a link or module on A2L to learning objects with a standardized message? (R. Cossa)

- Currently being worked on with MacPherson
- ii. Getting information to students when they need it is the challenge. Adding services that focus on the timing of communicating resources available without overloading students (S. Symons)
 - Library Carnival Day – teaches students about the library early on
 - Some Professors have provided academic tool kit for resources available (S. Hackett)
 - iii. Business first year students are provided with a podcast created by Ines Perkovic; can we target instructors of first year courses to replicate? Would this be valuable to students? (R. Cossa)
 - Not a large # of Librarians doing this work; broadening and enhancing of Librarian roles to include this function is necessary
 - Libguides are created for classes (research guides)
 - iv. Mental Health Services - is this tied to FYE? (T. Fetner)
 - Stress relief activities available in Libraries include pet therapy, exercise bikes, colouring classes, knitting clubs, popular reading collections, and games
 - Mental Health First Aid classes are made available to staff
 - Academic support package would include mental health resources available to them

5. Changes in the Academic Publishing Landscape (J. Adlington, J. Brodeur, O. Perkovic)

[Presentation available here](#)

- McMaster is currently in the second of a 3-year deal with Elsevier that includes 375 journal subscriptions.
- Annual activity report available to Engineering provides insight to Researcher investment (from writing the article, to APC charge, peer review etc.)
- Experts provides means of collecting OA information; purchasing of additional module will allow ability to ensure publications can or have already been made OA. Noted that McMaster does not currently have an OA mandate.

Questions & Feedback:

- i. Read & publish model – is a smaller scale worth considering? Elsevier has made it difficult for scholarly societies & university press to make a case for revenue stream. Are libraries considering which publisher relationships are valuable to maintain? (G. Zuroski)

- Society presses are adopting changes – some concern to maintaining revenue during transition with many exploring and communicating concern to ‘Plan S’
- Scientific journal issue – not one solution
- ii. Elsevier seems unwilling to take content away from U of California (T. Fetner)
 - Conversation will likely go back to table for further discussion.
- iii. Will people stop signing their articles to Elsevier; likely that some institutions are paying for OA (D. Gillespie)
- iv. Challenge to understanding value of OA journals (A. Phillion)
 - Provide model from top down (senior leadership); ensure new faculty members are aware of tools and value of one OA journal over another - where to look and how to compare to paid subscriptions.
 - Guidance at faculty and department levels – what do we support and recognize, types of publications that are of value to journals in field
 - Directory of Open Access Journals (<https://doaj.org/>) provides guidelines on what defines an OA journal (O. Perkovic)

6. Member Queries?

- December 2018 meeting –changes suggested to front page of Library website. Clarity has been requested by students on the difference between Discovery & Catalogue (A. Phillion)
 - Library is hoping to make changes to the website over the summer months

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm

- Fall 2019 meeting date TBD