1. Introductions

- Committee members and chair
- Dean Lim

2. Committee Purpose / Charge (Brian B.)

The ULC's formal charge was reviewed. This is not a governance or accountability committee. The members of this group are called on to be representatives of their departments or colleges, in an advisory capacity. Members will also serve as liaisons to their units. ULC can serve as a sounding board and also serve as a catalyst for library issues and initiatives. Libraries are more complicated than you may be expecting so some time will be spent learning about how the libraries work.

3. Library Update (Dean Lim)

A cross-campus steering committee is being formed to assist with a collaborative strategic visioning and planning process. The committee will meet once a month. ULC will hopefully participate in the strategic planning process, as there will be many opportunities to get involved. The process will take about 6 to 8 months and we have already started some environmental scanning/SWOT analysis, and have scheduled workshops on organizational values and vision. The difference between the steering committee and ULC is that the steering committee will have more internal representation from the Libraries and will be able to focus more intently on library goals, objectives, and initiatives. We want ULC's input on the mission and the vision. The new vision will need to be more aspirational and should also make sense in the context of the university's vision and priorities. It also needs to match with what you are seeing in your disciplines and how the library can be more of a partner.

4. University Libraries role in success of individuals, departments/colleges, and the university

Butler facilitated an appreciative inquiry exercise in which the participants were asked about the strengths of the libraries and how that relates to success for themselves as individuals, for their department or college, and for the university. The intention of this exercise was to start a conversation about the strengths of the libraries from a different perspective. The group split up into pairs and came up with lists of the libraries' strengths. The following represent a selection of responses:

The libraries are the heart of the research community
Special collections (especially Maryland History)
Use of spaces (quiet & collaborative)
Engaged, customer-focused, knowledgeable staff
Experimentation, thinking ahead and keeping up with user's needs
Teaching

Liaison System
Course Reserves
Inter-Library Loan
Partnerships (Big Ten, etc…)
TWI results one of best on campus
Complimentary services
Leveraging geography
Quiet place to think
Access to documents and articles
Cost avoidance for students
DRUM (Digital-Repository for University of Maryland)
Document Delivery
Open source

How do these strengths play into your success?

As individuals:

EDD/ILL – Access to Information
Allows for brainstorming/exploring ideas
Support dataset creation (open source)
Convenient access to resources
Remote work supported
Support for online education
Access for central resources (discovery to delivery)
Willingness to try to adjust
Access to info that would not otherwise be available-faculty

To dept or college:

Materials needed by faculty in this dept
Faculty time savings for discovery/access/delivery
Added credibility to grant proposals/systematic comprehensive discovery of relevant materials
Student success/teaching critical skills
Engagement in national library standards governance, issues
Support for new directions
Adaptability under constraints

For homework the attendees were asked to think about the metrics from your department and how they describe success.