

University Library Council (ULC) Meeting

Friday, March 12th, 2021

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Attendees met online

Present: Progyan Basu, Brian Butler [chair], Lindsay Inge Carpenter, Linda Coleman, John Cumings, Mark DeMorra, James Farquhar, Judi Kidd [note taker], Adriene Lim, John Laub, Marcio Oliveira, Dan Mack, Ellen Williams

Apologies: Nadine Sahyoun

1. Welcome and Dean's update

Adriene updated the group on PACT progress

- A set of cross-campus departmental meetings has been scheduled to introduce and get feedback on the proposed policy
- The Library Assembly voted to endorse the policy change in principle
- A forum on scholarly publishing has been scheduled for April, 20th [2-3 pm]

The Provost has approved the formation of the Affordable Course Content Task Force that will submit a report on reducing the cost of course materials for students. Gary White co-leads the group; Lindsay Inge Carpenter represents the Libraries. Marcio Oliveira represents the TLTC.

2. Open Education Resources (OER) - Lindsay Inge Carpenter & Adriene Lim

Lindsay gave a presentation on OERs [see attached PDF]. A library [guide to Open Educational Resources is available here](#). Prior to the meeting, group members were invited to complete a survey on their familiarity with OERs and Creative Commons licenses; responses show differences across campus disciplines.

The group thanked Lindsay for her presentation. A discussion followed:

- The presentation demonstrates many different ways of teaching
- The effects of high textbook costs are felt across disciplines. Issues of inequity with students either not taking up certain courses or dropping out when costs are too high. Students benefit from the highly popular Libraries' Top Textbook program, course reserves and interlibrary loan. The Library team is trained on fair use and copyright.

- Can more information be added to Testudo ahead of students needing to register for a class - prior knowledge of costs?
- Myths about OERS
 - They are not as high quality as “traditional” resources
 - They do not include resources such as videos, lecture slides, test etc
- One-on-one support and grants are available for interested faculty - email Lindsay: linge@umd.edu for more details
- Marcio is part of the Provost’s Affordable Course Content Task Force. They are surveying data on campus. He noted that copyright was an issue/challenge when working with other institutions.
- In certain disciplines, textbooks are bundled with software and are bought as a package.
- Unintended consequences on the rights of artists and musicians if their work is open access
 - Not everything can or should be open access - the push for social justice recognizes marginalized groups and content creators
- Differing ways of making textbooks affordable - e.g. making licence available to students. Software is made available in this way through virtual licences.
- How does the Bookstore fit into this? Compare to the Tech Store model. The group decided to look further into book scholarships and the role of the Bookstore.

3. Topics for ULC Spring Meetings

- Adriene will send the PACT draft policy review to ULC members
- Invite the campus Bookstore manager to ULC?

JKidd 2021-03-23