

University Library Council (ULC)

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

10 - 11 am Online

Attendees: Progyan Basu, John Bertot, Brian Butler [chair], Lindsay Inge Carpenter, Linda Coleman, Sushanth Gupta, Michele Lamprakos, Adriene Lim, Rochelle Newman, Marcio Oliveira, Patricia Ortega-Miranda, David Tomblin

Apologies: Mark Demorra, John Laub

Guests: Brynne Norton - Head, Resource Sharing & Reserves, Hilary Thompson - Director, User Services & Resource Sharing

1. Welcome

Brian welcomed ULC members and guests to this online meeting.

2. Dean's Update

- a. The Libraries' progress on strategic initiatives continues, including a major project to migrate website content to a new design and platform. Full production is expected at the end of the Spring Semester; the beta version is expected after Spring Break.
- b. The Affordable Course Content Task Force has completed its report. Task Force members will meet with sponsors before submitting the report to the Provost. The Task Force was led by Mary Warneka and Gary White; it was sponsored by the TLTC [Teaching and Learning Transformation Center], the Libraries and the Provost's Office.
- c. The [UMD PACT](#) group, which is sponsored by ULC, gave a Special Presentation to the Senate in November on their proposed Equitable Access Policy. The next steps involve preparing for a Senate vote later this semester.
- d. The Libraries' work on social justice continues with the [1856 Project](#) and [Project STAND](#). (ULC members expressed interest in obtaining a briefing on these two projects at the next ULC meeting.)
- e. The Libraries' Redefining Our Collections Task Force, led by Dan Mack is investigating ways to refocus our funding to better serve campus priorities. Following the internal information gathering phase, the second phase will broaden to an external audience to work with non-Library faculty..

- f. Adriene invited Hilary Thompson [Director, User Services & Resource Sharing] to share her group's anecdotal insights on recent trends in the use of library space. Pre-pandemic, at this early stage in the semester, most students would come into McKeldin to pick up a book or laptop, use computers briefly, print a paper, ask for help, etc. and then leave. This type of activity was quite prevalent and caused a lot of buzzing activity in library spaces. Currently, some campus classes are online and some are in person. Students who have a mix of online and in person classes seem to be using library spaces in different ways, e.g., attending online classes while in the Libraries. This results in occupancy levels usually seen during finals preparation, and students are staying longer and working more quietly and with less interaction amongst other students, in our observations. Not sure if this will continue, but the changes are noticeable.

3. Inter-Library Loan presentation by Brynne Norton and Hilary Thompson

See attached PDF of Brynne and Hilary's presentation on trends in ILL.

Discussion points included:

- Statistics did not include [difficult to isolate some costs]
 - Staffing costs
 - Shipping costs
 - Student employees scanning and processing books
- The ILL model relies on reciprocal borrowing and assumes that all libraries borrow and lend
 - Most libraries have experienced collection budget cuts
 - Borrowing costs versus lending revenue trends vary across institutions
 - UMD is at the lower end of Big Ten suppliers and the top end of borrowing
 - This is affecting our ability to be a resource to the Big Ten

4. Discussion: Items for consideration in the Spring Semester

- Look for examples of the Libraries working and being a resource for your units. Report back to Brian.
- Invite Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, University Archivist, Joni Floyd, Curator, Maryland and Historical Collections, and Doug McElrath, Director of SCUA, to share their work on the 1856 project, and Lae'l to share her leadership on the Project STAND initiative.

JKidd 2022-01-27