Notes for University Library Council (ULC) Meeting
Thursday 5 March, 2020
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m
6135 McKeldin Library

Present: Progyan Basu, Brian Butler (Chair), Laura Dugan, James Farquhar, Barbara Haggh-Huglo, Judi Kidd (note taker), Joseph Koivisto, Adriene Lim, Daniel Mack, Gary White

General announcements
- The 6 December and 13 February meeting notes were approved
- Adriene shared her dean's presidential briefing on the Libraries. The group agreed that this information could form the basis of a ULC members' briefing book. Brian will email the group for further content ideas. A list of information to share with other faculty members was also discussed since ULC membership does not represent all disciplines.
- The group was reminded about submitting an annual report to the Senate
- Adriene updated the group on COVID19 preparations
    - University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) have discussed issues including waiving fines in the event of closure. UMD Libraries will waive fines.
    - There is a query already sent to campus administration over which staff are considered "essential" during a closure. The libraries as a unit are not considered "essential" in the emergency sense, but some library staff would need to be on-site to ensure ongoing online services.
    - Clear communication with students will be necessary if campus closes because they often think the libraries will be open even when campus has closed
    - Group agreed that library representation on the campus planning group is needed
    - Consultation with many groups continue and more public-facing information will be available soon
- Strategic planning update
    - An online Library staff survey has been completed - Adriene will share results with ULC for their feedback
    - Two Library staff forums on March 11 and March 24 aim to gather more ideas for strategic initiatives and input about prioritization

Experiential learning in members' departments, schools, colleges
Group provided examples of both formally organized and ad hoc activities that support the educational mission of the university
- Student initiative to provide music in retirement homes. Faculty are now involved
- Business - usually initiated by MBA students; vetted by faculty
- Capstone - faculty involvement

- Ischool - students approach faculty and apply for funding. Faculty with funding search for students
- PHd collaboration

Issues identified
- Faculty time commitment on project
- Challenges managing/maintaining relationships outside campus
    - Former mayor of College Park works in the Ischool managing information/relationships outside campus
    - Commercial involvement - does not cover all faculty time. Deferring costs.

Adriene identified a dilemma related to open licensing:
- Libraries are inherently open institutions - publishing papers etc
- Commercial enterprises who partner with the university sometimes expect to be able to monetize jointly developed, innovative products and outputs of research. Would requiring open licensing stifle some innovation for this reason?

Discussion: James described an industry partner which required signing away all intellectual rights of university parties. Universities have the intellectual creativity which industry needs but are disadvantaged in terms of claiming their own work.

Brian noted that some students have been required to sign non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) in order to work on projects even though they own the intellectual right to their work as university students. General Council has not responded yet to this issue.

McKeldin tour

- 6th floor classrooms. Two configurable rooms with laptops and TV screens for interactive teaching; one traditional classroom. All freshmen/women take a class in their first year. Subject specialists teach here.

- Research Commons - Kelsey Corlett-Rivera, head of the Research Commons, described the support offered. Free workshops on data science, graduate research, Geographic Information System (GIS) and statistical analysis support researchers and faculty throughout the entire research cycle - from initial idea to publication.

- Yelena Luckert, Director of Research, Teaching, & Learning showed the group an area which is to be refurbished as a Film classroom/ Media Lab - a flexible space to view film and conduct instruction. She continued by guiding the group through the Reading Room. The Teaching and Learning office houses the Teaching and Learning Fellows (iSchool students) who teach undergraduates and learn the skills needed to become academic teaching librarians. This is a very successful program: Fellows have a 100% success rate in securing an academic post on graduation.

- InterLibrary Loan (ILL)/Reserves/circulation staff and public spaces on the first floor - Hilary Thompson, Director of User Services & Resource Sharing, described activities.
- The primary focus of ILL is meeting the information needs of UMD users that go beyond what our collections can provide and/or to make our collections more readily accessible. Many processing tasks are carried out by student workers while staff concentrate on more difficult issues such as liaising with international libraries and tracking down hard to find materials. This is a busy department: in FY19, 96,000 requests were received, with an average of 260 requests per day. Peaks in demand at the beginning of semesters are an issue.

  Membership of the Big Ten offers large benefits to UMD Libraries: 45% of our borrowing comes from them and 40% of what we loan goes to them. We are one of their fastest lenders.

- Close liaison with course instructors is necessary to provide the Course Reserves and the Top Textbook services. The Top Textbooks serves 100 courses with nearly 500 books in the current collection. Items may be borrowed for 4 hours and save students the expense of purchasing expensive textbooks. The Libraries work with the Department of Resident Life to collect textbooks after finals; titles are assessed and added to the collection as appropriate.

JKidd 2020-03-06