

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Weinberg Memorial Library
Friday, December 3, 2021

The meeting came to order at 11:34 a.m., via Zoom Conference Meeting by Dr. Marian Farrell.

Present: Interim Dean George Aulisio, Prof. Kelly Banyas, Dr. Lori Bruch, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Dr. Tracey Collins, Dr. Bryan Crable, Prof. Colleen Farry, Ms. Sharon Finnerty, Dr. Terri Freeman-Smith, Dr. Christopher Fremaux, Mr. Eugeniu Grigorescu, Prof. Michael Knies, Associate Dean Jean Lenville, Prof. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. Robert McCloskey, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Prof. Ian O'Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kim Pavlick, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Dr. Ben Willis, Prof. Donna Witek, and Dr. John Zych.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Marzia Caporale, Dr. Darryl DeMarzio, Dr. Michael Fennie, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Dr. Barry Kuhle, Dr. Michael Landrum, Dr. Nathan Lefler, Dr. Yibai Li, Dr. Wendy Mannetti, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Ms. Vrutti Patel, Dr. Adam Pratt, Dr. Robert Shaffern, Atty. Jason Shrive, Dr. Argyrios Varonides, and Ms. Keyri Villegas-saenz.

Dr. Bruch motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Crable. The minutes were accepted as written.

DEAN'S REPORT – Interim Dean George Aulisio

1. Library Personnel Update

Interim Dean Aulisio reported that Rita Williams who was the Interlibrary loan assistant has retired. The search process is underway, and there is a pool of candidates. The job description was partly revised to interact with the Interlibrary loan software. The anticipated start date is mid to late January.

Dr. Farrell asked how many positions remain open? Interim Dean Aulisio shared a spreadsheet and reported that in 2019 the Library had 26 full time and 9 part time positions, but in 2020 we were down to 24 full time positions. He is hopeful that in 2022 the Library will be back to the 26 full time positions, but he is not sure that will happen.

Prof. Banyas Kelly Banyas has not decided to seek reappointment. The process of starting that search has begun but because there is more of a need for a Research & Instruction Librarian for Business, that will be the focus on the position to fill.

2. Ending In-person Services at 10:00 pm Sunday – Friday

As mentioned at the last Library Advisory Meeting, it's hard to keep consistent staff due to the hours of clerk positions. There was no real push back from Student Government, the Library Advisory Committee, and the Provost agrees and is in favor of the reduced hours. Interim Dean Lenville and Prof. Banyas brought statistics showing that there is not much traffic that last hour and a half the building is open.

Beginning January, we will move to the new hours. Saturday and Sunday hours will remain the same. 24-hour chat access will still be available, and floors 1-3 will remain open.

When the building is open to the public again we will change closing the building from 10:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Dead week extended hours for the future will be determinate on data collected this year. Any changes would be made in the 22-23 academic year.

3. Collection Development Subcommittee

The Collection Development Subcommittee didn't have many volunteers. We would like feedback from a diverse group of faculty. At the minimum we need at least one representative from each college. If we remain in the status quo some departments may not be able to keep all their collections.

Interim Dean Aulisio announced that if people weren't willing to volunteer he, Dr. Farrell, and Prof. Orner would put together 3 proposals and bring them before the Committee. Dr. Farrell, Prof. Markowski and Dr. Crable volunteered.

Prof. Witek asked what the timeframe is for this subcommittee. Interim Dean Aulisio replied that the hope is to have proposals for the next Library Advisory Meeting, and have a recommendation by the last meeting of the year as to which option is preferred. Most of the work will be done in January and February.

4. Renaming of Special Collections

Interim Dean Aulisio reported that Brian McHugh passed away in August and that he bequeathed a significant gift to the Library. His nephew, who is also his estate lawyer, requested that the collection be renamed The McHugh Family Special Collections.

Prof. Knies added that the webpage will need to be updated, and that Mr. McHugh also gifted a grandfather clock from his estate which is now in the Heritage Room and encouraged the Committee to see it.

Interim Dean Aulisio said the official announcement of the name change will happen after the plaque is received.

OTHER REPORTS:

1. Collection Iron Mountain Remote Storage Update

Associate Dean Lenville reported the Library's 3-year contract is due to expire in summer of 2022 so we will be going into contract negotiations. There may be ideas and numbers to report on at the next Library Advisory meeting.

2. Information Literacy Update / Library Research Prize

Bonnie W. Oldham Library Research Prize:

Prof. Witek asked colleagues to please promote the three prizes to students in their courses and encourage department colleagues to do so as well — an email to all course instructors with details went out in November.

The application deadline for Summer or Fall 2021 projects is Monday, December 13, 2021 at 4:00 pm, The call for judges will be in Spring.

Information Literacy Stipends:

Prof. Witek announced that given that the subject liaison situation will remain status quo heading into Spring 2022, the decision to pause the Information Literacy Stipends is extended through Spring 2022.

Any questions about the Information Literacy Stipends or the Library Research Prize can be directed to Donna Witek (donna.witek@scranton.edu).

3. Spring Exhibit

Prof. Knies reported the President's exhibit will remain until the end of the semester. In January an exhibit on the Jesuit rare book collection, which will be on display until the third week of April. A reception is being planned featuring Fr. Antony Chiller (sp?) who is the head of the Ricci Institute for Chinese Studies as a speaker on his area of expertise regarding the Jesuits in Japan. A Reception is planned. This reception on March 22, 2022 will be co-sponsored by the Jesuit Center, the Slattery Humanities Center, the Schemel Forum, and the Friends of the Library.

4. Environmental Art Show Announcement

Prof. Cloutier announced that the first call for art for the Environmental Art show will go out the week of December 6th, 2021. The deadline to submit art is March 30, 2022. She encouraged all faculty, staff, and students to consider submitting art to the exhibit.

5. Affordable Learning Grants

Prof. Banyas reported that the Affordable Learning Implementation Grant applications are due December 3, 2021 by midnight. Anyone interested in being on the Judging Panel can contact her as soon as possible. She is looking for representation particularly from PCPS and KSOM. Prof. Banyas will reach out to the judging panel volunteers on Monday, December 6, 2021 with the applications and to schedule the meeting before the end of the semester.

6. Dean of the WML Search

Prof. Pratt-McHugh reported Dr. Susan Bowen stepped down from the search committee. Dr. Jeff Gingerich will now chair the search. The Committee has met with search firm twice, and the vetting of the current pool of candidates is already occurring. The first round of phone interviews will take place before Christmas, but if more applicants come in that may be extended.

She is optimistic that in-person interviews will begin in January or early in the spring semester we will have people on campus. The Library Advisory Committee will be invited to attend presentation forums with the candidates and feedback is important and encouraged.

Dr. Farrell added the search firm has been receptive to changes in the job description. The firm also acknowledged the need to have the Library Advisory Committee have the opportunity to interview candidates as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business discussed.

Dr. Farrell wished everyone a good holiday season thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

- Respectfully submitted by Kym Balthazar Fetsko