LIBRARY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 9, 2013

[In these minutes: Open Access Policy review; University Libraries update.]

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Jennifer Alexander (Chair), Brandon Adams, Michelle Brasure, Phil Buhlmann, John Butler, LeAnn Dean, Michelle Englund, Mary Alice Ford, David Fox, Judith Garrard, Vicki Graham, Ronald Hadsall, Bo Hu, Neil Olszewski, Luke Plutowski, Evan Roberts, Matthew Rosendahl, Mary Beth Sancomb-Moran, David Schulist, Marlo Welshons, Owen Williams

GUESTS: Jan Fransen, Cody Hanson

OTHERS: Mark Engebretson, Connie Lenz (for Joan Howland), Jeff Peterson

REGRETS: Wendy Lougee, Daniel Pesut

ABSENT: None

WELCOME

Professor Alexander called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

COMMITTEE ORIENTATION AND OVERVIEW

Professor Alexander discussed last year's business and highlighted the accomplishment of establishing the Open Access Publishing Fund (https://www.lib.umn.edu/scholcom/open-access-fund-application). She introduced the discussion topic: What is a library?
- Professor Alexander explained that with the advent of technology, the library is no longer just a place where collections are held; it is an even greater site of discovery. The spatial specificity remains for unique and archival collections. She then proposed how this theme could be explored throughout the year:
    - During the fall, issues surrounding discovery should be explored.
    - In the spring, examine collections, not only those that are unique to the University, but also to understand the issues that libraries face regarding physical collections.
- Professor Garrard agreed that libraries are more than physical and virtual sites and added the following areas of focus:
    - Protocols for archiving scholarly works.
    - Communicating scientific discoveries with communities.
    - Serving as an intermediary between scholars and funding sources.

- Mr. Butler stated that content is not just materials, it is also service. The phrase being used is "content as a service." This includes engagement with scholars at the front end of generative activities or content creation. What needs to be considered at the beginning of a research project to ensure long-term preservation of and access to the data (or scholarship)?
- The Libraries is considering the growing need and potential compliance issues surrounding the preservation and availability of data sets. This will create a deeper interactive relationship between researchers and the libraries.
- Ms. Dean emphasized that process and content are central to a library's existence. From information literacy to critical thinking, librarians serve an important role in connecting students to information in a meaningful way.
- Professor Hu stated that the author and the University should maintain rights to publications, not only publishers. Mr. Butler commented that the University Digital Conservancy acts as a repository for the institution's scholarship; unfortunately, participation is estimated to be at 3-5% of University scholars that publish.
- Mr. Adams emphasized the importance of the physical collections that are unique, rare, and that the provenance of the material is not retained digitally.
- Ms. Sancomb-Moran added that both ends of the spectrum are represented within the University because the Rochester campus has a virtual library, but they are afforded easy access to the physical collection of the Twin Cities Libraries due to the robust delivery system.
- Professor Olszewski stated that libraries are evolving so quickly that it can be difficult to communicate to users how they define themselves.

OPEN ACCESS POLICY – UPDATE AND ACTION

Professor Olszewski provided the background of the Open Access Policy:
- In the spring of 2010 the SLC recommended to the FCC that the University adopt an Open Access Policy. One year later, the SLC appointed a subcommittee that produced a draft policy for review. As a result of the policy, the Libraries helped to establish a process to ensure compliance with the Open Access Policy. In June of 2013, the FCC endorsed the policy and it will be sent to the University Senate for action.
- The goal of the policy is to promote access, especially as part of the University's land grant mission to inform the public. Another goal is to maintain protection of the author's ownership of their product. This policy helps authors to negotiate open access with publishers.
- The policy allows for authors to ask the University to provide open access, deny the option for open access, or negotiate open access within a certain timeframe. An author is still in compliance with the policy even if he or she decides not to provide open access to their material.
- There are no internal service charges associated with the University providing open access for University authors. The University is not seeking exclusivity of material; the concern is for redistribution rights and to ensure the goal of access is met.

A motion was made and seconded for members to vote to endorse the Open Access Policy. Members unanimously agreed in a vote by voice to endorse the policy.

CURRENT UMINN LIBRARIES ISSUES

John Butler, Associate University Librarian, presented an update on the University Libraries. He explained that there are two major implementations occurring within the next few months, with December 2013 being the key month of transition:

- A new, cloud-based back-end management and transactional system of the Libraries, which controls how items are cataloged, inter-library loans, and other core library functions.
- A new "discovery" or search system, which will replace both currently supported MNCAT and MNCAT Classic systems, and was discussed in-depth last year.

Jan Fransen, co-lead of the MNCAT Discovery Implementation group, presented a PowerPoint to update the members on the implementation. The following points were highlighted:

- Where we were: Spring 2013
- Where we are: Fall 2013
  - MNCAT Article Discovery was added, which provides a unified search of a large portion, not all, of the University's databases. This does not replace individual databases, but complements them.
- MNCAT Article Discovery
  - Advantages: do not need to know subject-specific database to search; and easy to narrow results to peer-reviewed journals.
  - Disadvantages: not as useful for specialized information that isn't indexed or comprehensive searching.
  - Note: in this model, search results are not limited to content that the University has access to. It will list bibliographic information about materials that are not immediately available to the University within the collection or license agreements, but can be obtained.
- Where we're going: December 26, 2013
  - Books and articles will be able to be searched at one time through MNCAT Discovery.
  - It will be important for users to understand the facets/filters of searches to improve relevancy.
  - MNCAT Article Discovery will require users to login with their x500 ID to yield the best results, especially from off campus. An intermediary screen will prompt users to log in.
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  - MNCAT Classic will be discontinued on this date.
- Coming Soon
  - Members were invited to provide feedback on MNCAT Discovery before it is released in December.

Cody Hanson, Acting Director, Web Development, used a PowerPoint to present an update on the Libraries' website redesign. The slides were focused on the following points:

- Why? Why now?
    - The website needs to reflect the back-end changes that are happening, such as MNCAT Discovery and Alma (library management system).
    - There is a large increase in mobile traffic to the Libraries homepage; the website will respond to mobile devices.
    - Speed has a great impact on user engagement and satisfaction. The site will be much faster.
    - Accessibility (e.g., for sight-impaired users) will be improved.
- The volume of usage has maintained the same level for the past few years. Mobile traffic is subsuming laptop or desktop use.

Mr. Hanson encouraged members to visit the prototype and provide feedback via www.lib.umn.edu/beta. There will be tutorials available for users. The website will launch in January of 2014.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Butler briefly updated members on the FY15 Compact submission process, which will be conveyed in-depth at a later meeting.

- In the Compact, the Libraries is reporting on the .08% cuts that were made for FY14. The Libraries have been asked to forecast a 1.5% budget reduction, to fund a 2.5% compensation program. This $546,000 will have to come from reallocation.
- The Compact will give programmatic attention to the Libraries efforts to support the University's e-Learning initiatives.

Professor Alexander asked members to note changes they have found regarding publishing within their disciplines.

In the interest of time, Professor Alexander adjourned the meeting.

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office