Senate Library Committee (SLC)
November 9, 2016
Minutes of the Meeting

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.

[**In these minutes:** Committee on Committees Review; University Learning Technology Advisors (ULTA) Committee Update; Discussion on Committee Priorities for the Year]

PRESENT: Irene Duranczyk (chair), Theresa Beaulieu, LeAnn Dean, Lori Helman, Connie Lenz, Joanne Richardson, Matthew Rosendahl, Mary Beth Sancomb-Moran, Richard Nho, Hikaru Peterson, Tim St. Claire, Jill Trites, Marlo Welshons, Owen Williams

REGRETS: Courtney Billing, Michelle Brasure, John Butler, Claire Dahl, Bo Hu, Wendy Lougee, Daniel Pesut, Evan Roberts

ABSENT: Nicholas Mandal, Paul Myers, Reilly Ruechel

GUESTS: Sauman Chu, Jay Hatch and Dana Hurley, members, Committee on Committees; Claire Stewart, associate university librarian for research and learning, University Libraries (for Wendy Lougee)

OTHERS: Vickie Courtney, director, University Senate Office

1.   Committee on Committees Review
Chair Irene Duranczyk welcomed Sauman Chu, Jay Hatch, and Dana Hurley, members; Committee on Committees, who were present to conduct the committee's review. Hatch explained that the purpose of the review was to look at the committee's charge and membership in order to assess whether these match up with what the committee has been doing and hopes to do in the future. Joanne Richardson observed that there is nothing in the charge that speaks to vision or mission, or looking to the future in terms of the libraries and their services, and said that she would like to see something to that effect added. Richard Nho added that the concept of "library" has changed from a place to check out books to more of a repository for information. He pointed out a need to examine this changing role. Duranczyk also pointed out that the charge does not refer to the libraries' constituents and how their services impact the user, and suggested that this would be an important addition.

Members also commented that because there is so much to know about the libraries, much of the committee's time is dedicated to catching up new members on what they need to know to have informed discussions. Claire Stewart, associate university librarian for research and learning, University Libraries, suggested that members could use electronic formats to discuss between meetings in order to maximize meeting time. Hatch suggested creating a welcome packet for new members, including all the essential information about the libraries, so that members could acquire the necessary base knowledge on their own time rather than devoting meeting time to it.

Hatch then asked whether the committee's membership is appropriate. Tim St. Claire asked how many students were on the committee, and Duranczyk said that there are four (including St. Claire), but that he was the only one present. Attendance has been a challenge, she said.

With no further discussion at this point, the Committee on Committees members departed.

2.   University Learning Technology Advisors (ULTA) Committee Update

Jill Trites provided an update on the University Learning Technology Advisors (ULTA) committee, of which she is a member. She explained that this is a new committee formed at the provost's behest, whose mission is to evaluate and make recommendations on academic technology lifecycle decisions-- adopting, expanding use, decommissioning, etc. The major focus of their first meeting, she said, was the need to change learning management systems. The choices are Moodle in the Cloud, or Canvas in the Cloud, which has been undergoing a pilot since Fall 2015. ULTA is expected to make a recommendation on this by the end of March 2017. She said that since the University has been using Moodle for 8-9 years, and the expected term of use is 3-5 years. Canvas is designed to operate in the Cloud rather than on a server. Trites added that there are increasing technical challenges to using Moodle. For example, over 20,000 hours were put into moving from Moodle 2.8 to 3.0. Also, there have already been five Moodle outages this semester, she said. Duranczyk clarified that Moodle is now stored on a server that is updated once a year; in the Cloud, there are continuous updates. She also directed members to the ULTA website and the Unizin website for more information. She said that since the University of Minnesota is a member of Unizin and shares expenses with a number of other universities, and since Canvas is part of Unizin, it is probably a waste of money to pay for a separate learning management system.

Stewart clarified that Provost Karen Hanson and Interim Vice President of Information Technology Bernie Gulachek convened the committee, not the University Libraries. However, she said that Canvas comes out of Unizin, which the University Libraries does sponsor.

St. Claire asked whether there was student representation on ULTA, and Trites said no. Students provide feedback as users of Canvas through their instructors.

Duranczyk instructed members to disseminate information about ULTA and the upcoming decision regarding Moodle or Canvas to their colleagues. Trites will provide another report at the February Library Committee meeting

3.   Discussion on Committee Priorities for the Year

Duranczyk reported the results of a survey in which she had asked members to choose the topics that they would most like to focus on for the year. The top four topics were the library budget, the changing role of libraries, open models for disseminating research, and supports for online education. She asked members which of these four they would like to focus on first. Members agreed to focus on the changing role of libraries, and it was determined that at the February meeting, the committee would hold a panel discussion at which the library directors could give their view on this topic. Several members offered to help formulate the questions, and it was agreed that the questions would be formalized in December. Vickie Courtney, director, University Senate Office, said that if the library directors from the system campuses would like

to attend the February meeting in person for this panel, the Senate Office could provide financial support.

With no further discussion, Duranczyk adjourned the meeting.

Amber Bathke
University Senate Office