
The University Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Senate Library Committee (SLC) February 13, 2024 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 reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the senate, the administration, or the Board of Regents.

[In these minutes: Welcome; Library News; Course Materials; System Campus Update - Duluth; Administrative Policy Consultation; *Open Access to Scholarly Articles*]

PRESENT: Lauren Martin (chair), James Boyd Brent, Andrew Gallia, Walid Maalouli, Gautam Ray, Wayne Soon, Ryan Greenwood, Anup Joshi, Anna Milone, Amanda Nelson, Daryl Lawrence, Gourab Paul, Louis Schwab, Lisa German, Matt Rosendahl, Holly Vanderhaar, Angela Vetsch, Keri Youngstrand

ABSENT: Aadan Spencer, Maxwell Uphoff, Kyungsoo Yoo

GUESTS: Shane Nackerud, director, Course Materials Services, University of Minnesota Libraries

1. Welcome

Lauren Martin, chair, welcomed members and guests and invited everyone to introduce themselves and to share the title of their favorite childhood book.

2. Library News

Lisa German, dean, University of Minnesota Libraries (the Libraries), updated the committee on the Libraries' current activities and major initiatives with a slide deck titled [Senate Library Committee Update - February 13, 2024](#). Points noted in the presentation include the following:

- The Minnesota Electronic Health Library (MeHL) was developed in response to the recommendation in the Governor's Task Force on Academic Health at the University of Minnesota to "share the resources of the University of MN libraries throughout the state." This will increase usability of clinical health information resources across the state.
- Many middle and high school students attended field trips to the University for National History Day in Minnesota where they had the opportunity to visit the libraries.
- The Business Reference Team hosted workshops for over 600 Carlson School of Business students to better understand the resources available to them for case studies.

- An example of how The Libraries' staff collaborates with colleges and units systemwide is the Carlson Consulting Enterprise in which MBA teams work on experiential learning projects by creating resource guides and consulting sessions.

Hearing no questions or further discussion, Martin moved to the next agenda item.

3. Course Materials

Shane Nackerud, director, Course Materials Services, used this [slide deck](#) to share information on course materials and support for faculty provided by The Libraries at the University.

Nackerud went into detail about the six main ways that The Libraries' staff supports students, staff, and faculty at the University:

- Library course materials reading lists
- Course consultations
- Open education resources (OER)
- Copyright permissions services
- Bookstore partnership
- Digital video delivery service

Highlights of the impact of the work done by The Libraries (computed since fall 2019 semester) are listed on a *Course Materials Savings Dashboard*, and includes the following statistics:

- \$34 million in potential student cost savings
- 16,000 course sections make use of affordable content
- Roughly 1500 reading lists are created each semester

The Libraries work in other ways to lower the cost of materials for students, including the following:

- Using, supporting, and advocating for open textbooks
- Participating in numerous grant opportunities
- Investigating open homework systems and piloting such programs across the Big 10 Academic Alliance (BTAA)
- Partnering with the UMN Bookstores with the intention of buying as many e-books as possible
- Developing, with the UMN Bookstores, a possible "universal access" program through which students could opt in to purchase all of their course materials for a predetermined amount per semester

Nackerud then invited questions from committee members. Questions included the following:

- Does the University work with preferred vendors for buying ebooks? Nackerud said the University would buy as many unlimited licensing ebooks as possible, if the vendors made them available. Many large publishers - Pearson, Senage, Wiley, McGraw Hill - do not make unlimited licensing available.
- Can improvements be made to the linking mechanism for e-books in the Canvas? Nackerud said he would encourage faculty to let him or library staff know as soon as possible if they are using an ebook and it will be linked immediately in Canvas. Nackerud added that he is in discussions with colleagues about creating an ebook-only search function for the catalog.
- Does the support for open access publishing include support for peer review? Nackerud said that peer review and copy editing services are offered and that open peer review is

being considered as that service is already embedded in some of the publishing tools that The Libraries use.

- Is there any flexibility for being able to make a change in requested materials during the semester; specifically related to Harvard Business Publishing Education cases. Nackerud said it is not the decision of the University of Minnesota; Harvard does not allow it. Adding to an existing course pack is not possible, though it may be possible to create an entirely new course pack for the course.
- How can resources be cross-listed for more than one campus so that students on any/all campuses have access to necessary course materials? Matt Rosenberg noted that this had been a stumbling block for a long time for UMD students; but because of some recent technology and policy changes the roughly 200 students taking courses on multiple campuses now have access to the materials they need.

4. System Campus Update - Duluth

Matt Rosendahl, director, Kathryn L. Martin Library, shared information using this [slide deck](#). He focused on insights and strengths from the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) campus and the Kathryn L. Martin Library:

- UMD has more research funding than all the non-research colleges in Minnesota and Wisconsin combined.
- UMD is now being referred to as a regional research university because of its robust research programming, and the library offers significant support to research at UMD.
- UMD is launching the Peer-Mentor Research Support Program intended to create increased opportunities for *undergraduate* students to be involved in research projects
- UMD, like other colleges and universities in the Midwest, is seeing enrollment challenges and has chosen to lean into this challenge and analyze, address, and perhaps reconfigure the overall array of programs it offers.
- [Information Literacy web page](#) outlines essential questions that guide the creation of instructional approaches for faculty, instructors, and teaching assistants.
- UMD, as a land grant university, has a special commitment to serving the community and serving as an archives partner for the city of Duluth and its history.
- UMD has founded an American Indian Advisory Council with representatives from all tribes in northern Minnesota to guide UMD on what is the collections is shared, how material is described, priorities around making materials available, and matters of repatriation. One priority that was requested, for example, was the digitization of a documentary titled *A Gift to One, A Gift to Many* about Ojibwa medicine man Jimmy Jackson; that has now been completed.

Martin thanked Rosendahl for his presentation and, hearing no questions, moved to the last agenda item.

5. Policy Consultation: *Open Access to Scholarly Articles*

Chair Martin shared [proposed changes](#) to the FAQ section of the Administrative Policy: [Open Access to Scholarly Articles](#) and asked committee members for their input. As proposed revisions are fairly minor, the committee agreed to vote on supporting the proposed changes at this meeting. The vote was 12 in favor of supporting the proposed changes, zero nays, and two abstentions.

The committee asked that the document with proposed edits be sent to them after the meeting, in case there were any friendly edits to be suggested upon a more in depth review.

Hearing no further business, Martin thanked committee members and guests and adjourned the meeting.

Geanette Poole
University Senate Office