

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University Libraries Committee
October 9, 2020
Teams Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Martha Carlin, Michael Doylen - UL Director, Anne Dressel - ULC Chair, Tom Holbrook, Su-yu Lin, Lindsay McHenry, Shama Mirza, Kathryn Olson, Paul Price, Jason Puskar, Cary Costello, Hilary Snow, and Conal McNamara

Guest: Susan Foran, assistant director of libraries for Collection & Resource Management

1. Anne Dressel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2020 meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Chair's Report – No report
4. Director's Report

Doylen reported that the UWM Libraries are meeting the demand for a safe place to study. The Golda Meir Library received 8,700 visitors in September, the UWM at Washington County Library received 940, and the UWM at Waukesha Library 2,800. Despite significant reduction of seating to accommodate social distancing, there is plenty of seating at all library locations.

Students are making good use of computers and WiFi. In collaboration with the Dean of Students, the Libraries are distributing 50 WiFi hotspots to students.

Loans are down at all libraries. The Golda Meir Library has paged 2,400 items for users since September 1. Users at Washington County and Waukesha have unmediated access to the physical collection.

The Libraries are seeing greater compliance with the campus policies related to masks and social distancing.

5. Collection Review Outcome and Cancellations for FY21

To manage significant budget reductions in FY21, the Libraries is taking steps to reduce spending on the collection by \$316,600. The Libraries identified titles with high cost relative to use and solicited campus input on potential cancellations beginning in May. It shared lists of individual journal and database titles as well as titles included in the Elsevier ScienceDirect Complete/Freedom Collection. This "Big Deal" package consists of 2,200 journals and captures about 20% of the total collection budget.

Despite months of negotiations with Elsevier, the Libraries was unable to reach a deal that met its financial needs. Accordingly, it will not renew its subscription to the ScienceDirect Complete/Freedom Collection when it expires on December 31, 2020. Instead, it will renew subscriptions to a much smaller set of Elsevier titles. Through these title-by-title subscriptions, as well as open access and backfiles, the UWM community will continue to have instant access to a significant number of Elsevier journals. It will provide access to other Elsevier journals through interlibrary loan (ILL).

In addition to these changes, the Libraries are cancelling subscriptions to some non-Elsevier titles with high cost relative to use, a trend of declining use, or alternative electronic access.

The Libraries will begin communicating these decisions to the campus next week.

6. Preliminary Plan for Proposed 9% Budget Cut

Campus has asked schools/colleges/divisions to prepare preliminary plans for a 9% budget cut in FY22. Doyley emphasize that this was a preliminary planning exercise and that he hoped that the Libraries will receive a much lower spending reduction target. He noted that a cut of this magnitude, if implemented, would affect all aspects of library operations and that many temporary changes made in response to one-time budget cuts in FY21 might need to be considered permanent. The Libraries will receive its final FY22 budget in December, and he will report to the committee in early 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Doyley
Anne Dressel