

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University Libraries Committee
November 13, 2020
Teams Virtual Meeting

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

Excused: Martha Carlin and Tom Holbrook

Guest: Susan Foran, Interim Assistant Director of Libraries for Collection & Resource Management, and Leigh Dorsey, Assistant Director of Libraries for Access Services

1. Anne Dressel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2020 meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Chair's Report

Dressel thanked ULC for their help with the funding letter to the Provost. She sent the letter on 10/23/2020. She also gave kudos to the UWM Libraries for hosting the 51st Fromkin lecture presentation on "Separate and Not Equal: Racism and Health Equity in Milwaukee."

4. Director's Report

Doylen reported that use of the physical library spaces has decreased at all campuses since his October report. While some of this is due to a normal decrease in fall semester activity, it is certainly also driven by the recent surge of COVID-19 cases. Doylen also noted an increase in online activity, especially in terms of interactions with library staff via chat and email, and use of online library guides.

Reading rooms in AGSL, Archives, and Special Collections reopened by appointment beginning Oct. 5 and are receiving a modest number of onsite researchers. Information about making an appointment is online at <https://uwm.edu/libraries/reopening-status/distinctive-collections/>

Following the Thanksgiving recess, the Libraries will stay open to provide students with a safe place to study, access to the print collections, and access to computers and WiFi. Doylen expects a slight reduction in hours to better align the Libraries with the level of activity at each campus.

The [Libraries' 2019-2020 annual report](#) is now posted on the UWM Libraries' website.

The Fromkin lecture featured the research of several UWM faculty and community partners on racism and public health. Doyley noted that this was the Libraries' first virtual presentation in the lecture series. It was attended by 98 people, including members of the extended Fromkin family.

The Libraries had its budget meeting on 10/22 with campus leadership regarding the potential 9% reduction for FY22. During the meeting, Doyley advocated for the use of carryforwards to off-set spending reductions to the collection budget. Schools, colleges, and divisions will receive their final, adjusted budgets in mid-January.

The UWM Libraries did not recommend any employees for VSIP. Doyley noted that the departure of eligible employees would not have realized the significant, long-term savings required by the program and, indeed, would likely have jeopardized the Libraries' ability to fulfill its mission.

5. Archives Renovation

Doyley presented plans to renovate 12,000 SF on the third floor, west wing of the Golda Meir Library to serve as a new home for the Archives and, in the future, Special Collections. This move will accomplish several long-term goals, including modernization of the reading room, creation of an active learning classroom, centralization of archival collection storage, and vastly improved environmental controls for collection preservation. Planning has been underway since 2018 and was initially presented to ULC in January of that year. The Libraries recently met its \$2.8M fundraising goal and is developing plans to clear the area.

MD explained that the area to be renovated currently holds 152,000 books and bound journals in the following LC call number classifications: E-F (History of the Americas), G (Geography, Anthropology and Recreation), and H (Social Sciences). In reviewing these materials, the Libraries identified 45,000 that have not circulated in 12 years and are held by at least 3 other UW libraries. Before investing further resources into the maintenance of these materials, the Libraries would like to review them for their continuing importance to the UWM community. MD asked ULC for guidance on how to include faculty in the review process.

The following discussion focused on the research needs of faculty in the humanities and social sciences, library collection development, off-site storage, and resource sharing among UW libraries.

After discussion, ULC recommended that the Libraries reach out to academic departments and programs most likely to have an interest in the title review project, and offer to provide them with title lists in call number classifications and sub-classifications, as requested.

It was moved and seconded to support the Libraries' collection review process, as described above.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Kozar