

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
University Libraries Committee  
May 7, 2021  
Teams Virtual Meeting

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

Excused: Hanyong Park

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 March 5, 2021 meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Chair's Report:

Dressel thanked the committee members who will complete their terms at the end of this semester, including Martha Carlin, Conal McNamara, Hanyong Park, and Hilary Snow. Dressel also thanked Michael Doynen, Katrina Kozar, and the Libraries' staff for their hard work this year.

4. Director's Report:

Doynen shared the sad news regarding Kathy Bowes, senior academic librarian, who passed away on April 24, 2021 after a long battle with cancer. Kathy was a valued member of the UWM Libraries and worked in a variety of roles since joining the staff in July 2000. Most recently, she was a member of User Services, providing research subject expertise for art, architecture, foreign languages, and the Honors College. Information on a memorial service will be forthcoming.

Doynen announced the following retirements:

- After nearly 25 years of service, Kim Silbersack, Golda Meir Library building manager, will retire effective June 2.
- After 37 years of service, Jane Cavanaugh, public services librarian at UWM at Waukesha, will retire effective September 7. Her last day in the office will be June 14.
- Karen Kleist, library services assistant-advanced at UWM at Washington County, will retire effective September 17.

The search for the assistant director of Libraries for Collection & Resource Management continues. The committee completed phone interviews and will forward its recommendations for second interviews to Doynen next week. On-site interviews will include in-person, mixed, and virtual components.

The Provost recently approved the following two recruitments.

- Public services librarian in AGSL (associate academic librarian) -- replacing Jovanka Ristic
- Library services assistant- advanced at Washington County -- replacing Karen Kleist
- Building manager at the Golda Meir Library – replacing Kim Silbersack

Doysten is working with assistant directors to prepare for recruitments at the Waukesha Library (to replace Jane Cavanaugh) and in User Services, which now has multiple vacancies. These recruitments require more thought before we request permission to hire.

Doysten provided an overview of on-site use patterns for the spring semester. Usage decreased from the fall, consistent with normal years. On a weekly basis, the Golda Meir Library had around 1,000 on-site users (based on gatecounts), the Washington County Library had 170, and the Waukesha Library had 400. Students accounted for 78% of all gate counts at the Golda Meir Library, while faculty/staff were 16%. Graduate students accounted for nearly 40% of all item checkouts, followed by faculty (35%), and undergraduates (20%). Graduate students expressed strong appreciation for all library services – onsite and online – in response to a recent survey conducted by the Graduate School.

Beginning June 1, the Golda Meir Library will reopen most other areas of the building, including the general collection, open study areas, carrels, and a few group study rooms. All service desks will reopen with regularly scheduled hours. All libraries will remain closed to the general public.

Library leadership will review the Libraries' telecommuting arrangements in the near future. Both UW System and UWM are in the process of revising their respective policies. The Libraries have permitted telecommuting since 2013. Prior to COVID-19, eligible staff could telecommute up to 2 days/week.

All library staff will report to work during the first week in August with their regular work assignments, which will include a mix of on-site and telecommuting for some staff. Libraries will use August as a month to resume more normal work patterns and prepare to welcome students in September.

Libraries are discussing what COVID-19 induced adjustments and services will continue beyond the pandemic. Discussions focus on virtual programming and exhibits, virtual research consultations using Teams, and online instruction. The Libraries were already exploring some of these topics prior to COVID-19, but the pandemic accelerated their adoption.

The UWM Libraries received full funding for its 2021-2022 ED Tech proposals. These include

- Digital Commons
- Film Platform collection
- Core research databases for undergraduates, including Communication and Mass Media Complete, Historical Abstracts, MLA International Bibliography, Sociological Abstracts, GenderWatch, and Mental Measurements Yearbook
- Open Educational Resources (joint proposal with CETL)

Doylen thanked Anne Dressel for chairing ULC in 2020-2021 and thanked members who are rotating off the committee.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katrina Kozar