

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University Libraries Committee
September 16, 2021
Teams Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Michael Doylen – Director of Libraries, Anne Dressel - ULC Chair, Elana Levine, Su-yu Lin, Shama Mirza, Lindsay McHenry, Paul Price, Amanda Seligman, Jae Yung Song, Nicole Stelzner, and Erin Winkler

Excused: Bonita Klein-Tasman

1. Anne Dressel called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
2. Election for Chair 2021-2022:
ULC elected Amanda Seligman as the University Libraries Committee Chair for 2021-2022.
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting on May 7, 2021:
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2021 meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously with all members voting.
4. Review of annual report for 2020-2021 submitted to Secretary of the University:
ULC reviewed the annual report that was submitted to the Secretary of the University.
5. Fall 2021 meeting modality and schedule:
ULC agreed to meet on Teams for 2021-2022 year and the dates for Fall have been selected:

Thursday, October 14 at 11:00 am
Thursday, November 11 at 11:00 am
Thursday, December 16 at 11:00 am
6. Director's Report:

The Golda Meir Library reopened all spaces beginning August 1. All service desks have regular, scheduled hours. Libraries promote the mask mandate with signage, and staff remind people to wear masks when they enter the building and at service desks. Doylen indicated a high rate of compliance among library visitors.

Beginning this fall, the Libraries eliminated 24/5 access to the Learning Commons due to low use after 1:00 a.m. and to achieve budget savings. LC now closes at 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. It closes at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Also beginning this fall, the service desk on 2E was closed due to low use and to achieve budget savings. Services have been relocated to the main circulation desk and course reserves.

The area has been repurposed as a contemplative space, which aligns with a campus initiative to create areas on campus for students to retreat from the stress of college life. It includes yoga mats, cushions, prayer rugs, ball chairs, and soft lighting.

Over the summer, staff finished clearing an area on the 3rd floor, west wing to make way for the new Archives. The project was started in fall 2017 with a gift of \$1M. Since then, the Libraries secured an additional \$1.3 million in private gifts and State support. Construction is expected to begin in late October or early November.

This fall, the Libraries opened six group study rooms in the UWM at Waukesha Library. Students now have access to dedicated, accessible spaces with sharable technology. With capacity for 4-6 students, each group study room has seating and worktables, a white board, and a video monitor with laptop hookups.

Library leadership has started strategic planning for the next one to two years. Our planning is aligned with campus initiatives around DEI, Campus Wellness, and 2030 Planning. Doynen will share a draft with ULC in the coming months for their input.

On Friday, September 24, the Golda Meir Library will host the Slovenian Consul General and the Minister for Slovenians Abroad. They are interested in the Slovenian music collection, the largest of its kind outside of Slovenia.

On Saturday, September 25, the Golda Meir Library will participate in Doors Open. The American Geographical Society Library, Archives and Special Collections will be open to receive visitors.

The Fromkin lecture is scheduled for November 4 with featured speakers Anne Bonds (Geography) and Derek Handley (English) speaking on restrictive racial covenants in Milwaukee County real estate records. It is currently planned as a hybrid presentation.

The call for 2022 Fromkin research grant applications has gone out. Proposals are due by December 10.

Doynen noted the following staff changes since spring:

Departures

- Kay Guildner, library services assistant-advanced in AGSL, retired after 14 years of service, effective July 30.
- Ashley Chapa, circulation desk supervisor, resigned after 7 years, effective August 2.
- Leigh Dorsey, assistant director for Access Services, retired after 25 years, effective August 3.

Hires

- Stephanie Surach hired as library services assistant-advanced (fixed term) effective June 21.
- Steve Keltner hired as building manager effective August 2.
- Brianna Newcombe hired as library services assistant-advanced at the Washington County Library effective Aug. 30.

Searches

- Assistant director for Collection and Resource Management closed without a hire in July; will repost this fall
- Associate academic librarian (public services librarian) in AGSL
- Library services assistant-advanced in Circulation
- Library services assistant-advanced in AGSL
- Operations program assistant at GML

Like other schools/colleges/divisions, the Libraries received a 3.5% preliminary expense reduction target. This is the equivalent of \$265,000. Proposals are due October 1, and a budget meeting will be scheduled in November. Libraries will receive their final, adjusted budget in January. Doynen will keep ULC informed as the process moves forward.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Kozar