

University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
University Libraries Committee
October 18, 2023
Teams Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Razia Azen, Michael Doyle – Director of Libraries, Kristine Koyama, Maura Lucking, Stuart Moulthrop – Acting Chair, Amanda Seligman, Nicole Stelzner, Nicole Welk-Joerger, and Anne Widmayer

Excused: Philip Chang, Robin Mello – ULC Chair, Victoria Moerchen, and Erin Winkler

1. Moulthrop called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.
2. Approval of the September 20, 2023 meeting minutes:
The minutes of the September 20, 2023 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
3. Chair's report
Moulthrop is sitting in as acting chair for Mello, as she is unable to attend this meeting.
4. Director's report
Doyle shared some of the events and programs that have been scheduled at the Golda Meir Library. The Archives Open House was held on September 20 with Vice Chancellor Chia Vang making opening remarks. On October 8, Doyle met with the Student Association government to discuss how the Libraries are responding to textbook affordability issues through OER and eCATs. The Fromkin Lecture will be presented by Ermitte Saint Jacques and Robert Smith on October 19 with a focus on the black middle class of Milwaukee. On October 25, the Libraries will host a program on transformative agreements, featuring staff from the Cambridge University Press followed by a UWM faculty panel discussion. The Libraries will also host a two-day workshop on the Future of Humanities Publishing on November 2 and 3.

Doyle provided a summary of meetings that he participated in to discuss safety and security after the gun incident in March. These meetings showed strong support for implementing an ID requirement in GML during all open hours. This information was shared with both Provosts, interim and current, and after careful consideration, Provost Daire supported implementing this requirement. GML will be moving in that direction after new entry gates are installed. Installation is tentatively planned for the spring semester; ID requirement for the summer.

Doyle briefly addressed the Washington County campus closure set for June 30, 2024. There are many questions about how this decision will impact students, employees, and the community. Employees have not received layoff notices at this time. The Libraries will strive to maintain services while classes are scheduled. Decisions about physical collections, equipment, and furniture will be made at the appropriate time.

Doylen announced that Kristen Woodward will join the November meeting to share an update on OER initiatives at the UWS level. He will also gather information about Libraries' engagement with ChatGPT.

5. New Business

a. Spring 2024 meeting schedule – Michelle will poll the committee for their availability.

b. FY25 budget planning

Doylen discussed the status of FY25 budget planning for the Libraries. The budget is allocated in three main areas: staff (50%), collections (40%), and operations (10%). There is also an annual 6% increase on the collections budget. Typically, the Libraries takes spending reductions across all three areas. Doylen presented some examples of services and collections that have been cut over the past few years. He also discussed some options being considered for this year's budget cuts. The committee plans to provide a letter of support to the Provost and Vice Chancellor.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Smith