

University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
University Libraries Committee
February 14, 2024
Teams Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Adam Andrews, Razia Azen, Philip Chang, Michael Doyle – Director of Libraries, Kristine Koyama, Robin Mello – Chair, Stuart Moulthrop, John Roberts, Amanda Seligman, Anne Widmayer, and Erin Winkler

Excused: Nicole Stelzner and Victoria Moerchen

Guest: Chris Doll and Kate Ganski

1. Mello called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the November 15, 2023, meeting minutes:
The minutes of the November 15, 2023, meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
3. Chair's report
Mello reported on her service on the 2024 Morris Fromkin Grant and Lecture Selection Committee.
4. Director's report
Associate Professor Nan Kim in the Department of History is the recipient of the 2024 Morris Fromkin Grant and Lectureship with the topic of "Environmental Crisis and Social Justice in the New Nuclear Age".

Doyle met with the new CIO, Scott Genung, on January 24. Genung will also meet with library leadership to share his vision and plans for IT at UWM.

In late January, Doyle attended a day-long Academic Affairs Administrative Summit focused on student success. The Summit included presentations by two UWM students and Dr. Aashir Nasim, Vice President and Senior Advisor to the President at VCU.

The library assistant at Washington County, Lyndsey Agar, found other employment and her last day was February 9. Karen Kleist, the former library assistant, has returned in a part-time, temporary role to provide services and assist with winding down operations as of February 12.

Doyle reported that the Libraries received essentially a flat budget for FY25. This is good news considering that they were initially asked to model a 3.5% reduction in expenses. However, the Libraries have been asked to build flexibility into their operating budget plans to respond to future changes in revenue and costs. The campus will continue to face a challenging financial environment in the near term. Doyle thanked the committee again for the letter of support, indicating that it had made a difference.

UW System recently rescinded the policy that required campuses to have a competitive process to designate how Educational Technology Fees are used. With this policy change, UWM has decided to discontinue the annual call for “Ed Tech” proposals. The Libraries have received these funds on a regular basis since 1996-97 and used them on important initiatives and resources such as Open Educational Resources, journals and databases, and institutional repository. The Libraries have been invited to submit a proposal for funding to support OER in FY25 but will need to find other ways to support library resources and institutional repository. Doyle is consulting with the relevant staff on alternatives that are cost neutral.

5. UWM at Washington County Library Planning

Doyle discussed the Libraries plan to close the Washington County campus library by the June 30 deadline. The Libraries have been actively communicating with the UWM at Washington County community to keep them informed about what they can expect this semester. This information has also been posted on the library’s website along with some FAQs. Dispersal of collections will begin with transferring items to Waukesha campus and GML, transferring to other UW libraries, selling on ThriftBooks, donating to charities, and recycling. All services, including local borrowing, reference services, research consultations, and course instruction, will continue while the library is open which depends on staffing levels. Contingency plans are ready in the event that the library needs to close before the end of the semester.

6. Golda Meir Library Collection Review (call numbers S-Z)

Chris Doll, Associate Director of Collection and Resource Management, described the GML collection review that his department will be conducting this semester for call numbers S-Z. He described review criteria, methodology, and opportunities for faculty participation.

7. User Services and Generative AI

Kate Ganski, Associate Director of User Services, presented on how her department has been exploring Gen AI and Chat GPT and how it will impact their services. They are finding ways to support student use of sources in artificial intelligence. They created an AI area to the Libraries’ citation styles tutorial page and added a case study to the UW System academic integrity tutorial. Next steps include making sure that students understand what it means to be information literate.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Smith