

TO: University Faculty Senate Cabinet
FROM: Katherine Silver Kelly, Clinical Professor of Law, Michael E. Moritz
College of Law (Kelly.864)
Committee Chair, University Libraries Committee
RE: Annual Report for 2025-26 Academic Year
DATE: June 8, 2026

Membership 2025-26

Chair: Katherine Silver Kelly, December-April; Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner, September-November (Dr. Tuxbury-Gleissner accepted a position at another university at the end of 2025).

Vice-Chair: Katherine Silver Kelly, September-November.

Faculty: Patrick Collins, David Filipi, Jared Gardner, Carly Gilson, Sarah Lang, Sarah Neville.

Staff: Raymond Irwin, USAC.

Students: Brady Condon, IPC; Brian Rocha, CGS; Vacant, USG.

Administration: Damon Jagers, Dean of University Libraries; Loren Wold, VP for Research Designee; Ginger Breon, CIO Designee.

Incoming Chair: Carly Gilson, Associate Professor of Special Education, Department of Educational Studies.

Incoming Vice Chair: to be elected from the 2026-27 committee member appointees.

Administrative Support

The Committee is grateful for the assistance and expertise of Elaine Pritchard who worked with Dean Jagers and the Committee chairs to support the Committee's work. Elaine's support was invaluable and very much appreciated.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Library Committee [Link to Senate Rules](#)

1. Advise the dean of university libraries in the planning and implementation of programs and policies supporting the educational, research, and service activities of libraries and related units.
2. Articulate the library's mission, goals, and needs to the university administration.
3. Assist the dean of university libraries in the assessment, improvement, and promotion of library and information services that support the university community.

4. Advise the dean of university libraries on agreements with publishers and information vendors that are in the best interest of the university community.
5. Advise the appropriate administrative office on the appointment of the dean of university libraries.

Committee Bylaws

[Link to the Library Committee Bylaws](#)

Meeting Dates:

The Committee met 7 times: September 11, October 9, November 6, January 14, February 18, March 25, and April 22.

- The November and March meetings were tours of University Libraries facilities: Billy Ireland Cartoon Museum and Library, and Libraries Tech Center.

Meeting Discussion Topics, Activities, Accomplishments

Below is a summary of meeting discussion topics, activities, and accomplishments. Meeting minutes and material are available on the University Teams Drive for the Libraries Committee.

September Meeting

- Attendance: Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner, Katherine Silver Kelly, Damon Jaggars, Loren Wold, David Filipi, Carly Gilson, Sarah Lang, Patrick Collins, Raymond Irwin, Brian Rocha, Elaine Pritchard.
- Introductions, review of committee charge, and overview of upcoming year topics: teaching and affordability, AI in libraries, digital accessibility, preservation and research data support.
- University Libraries overview, Damon Jaggars, Vice Provost and Dean of Libraries
 - 11 facilities, ~11M volumes, major student employer, extensive teaching, research support, and high usage (millions of visits, searches, and materials delivered annually).
 - Strong teaching and service mission across departments, with librarians embedded in courses and supporting 42,000 students annually.
 - FY26 budget priorities: 40% materials, 55–60% personnel, with additional fundraising; efforts underway to offset funding pressures and manage materials costs.
 - Association of Research Libraries 2024 survey (investment index survey): 5th among U.S. publics, 11th among all U.S. universities.

- Updates: library management system transition and website redesign completed; continued focus on user feedback, data cleanup, and functionality enhancements.
 - CarmenBooks/affordability initiative highlighted: provides course materials at 35–45% savings; expected to grow into a \$10M program.

October Meeting

- Attendance: Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner, Katherine Silver Kelly, Damon Jaggars, Loren Wold, Ginger Breon, David Filipi, Sarah Lang, Patrick Collins, Raymond Irwin, Brian Rocha, Elaine Pritchard, Jane Hammons, Amanda Larson.
- Meeting included introductions and scheduling updates, with plans to adjust spring meeting times and announcement of upcoming leadership transition (Katherine Silver Kelly to become Chair).
- Libraries Teaching & Learning Department, Jane Hammons, Interim Head of Teaching and Learning; Amanda Larson, AERI Program Manager.
- Teaching & Learning Department focuses on building students' information literacy, research, and critical thinking skills through curriculum integration, workshops, and partnerships with instructors.
 - Extensive undergraduate support programs highlighted, including orientation, First Year Success Series, STEP programming, research coaching (AskUs/A+), and credit-bearing courses.
 - Affordable Educational Resources Initiative leads affordability efforts (including CarmenBooks and syllabus grants), generating millions in student savings and expanding instructor support tools.
 - Instructor-facing support includes teaching endorsements, workshops, ready-to-use course modules, and open educational resources to improve pedagogy and integrate library skills.
 - Contributions to AI fluency initiatives includes faculty development, and integration of AI-related content into courses and training programs.
- Discussion on assessment methods, outreach/marketing of programs, support for graduate students, funding sources for affordability programs, and opportunities for broader collaboration with instructors.

November Meeting

Tour of Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum.

January Meeting

- Attendance: Katherine Silver Kelly, Damon Jaggars, David Filipi, Carly Gilson, Sarah Lang, Patrick Collins, Raymond Irwin, Brady Condon, Brian Rocha, Jared Gardner, Elaine Pritchard, Michael Flierl, Cory Tressler

- Committee addressed administrative updates: vice chair nominations, revisions to the Responsible Use policy, which remains aligned with library practices.
- AI at the Libraries, Michael Flierl, Student Learning Librarian and OAA Faculty Fellow; Cory Tressler, Assistant Dean for Technology and Digital Programs.
 - Libraries' AI efforts have evolved from an advisory group to a steering committee focused on strategy, operations, and identifying opportunities to enhance and support staff work.
 - The University is leveraging existing responsible use and data policies rather than creating a standalone AI policy, while Libraries contributes guidance, especially in the areas of on copyright and research use.
 - Libraries are using AI to improve discovery, research, and access. Examples include searching special collections, exploring LLM development, and supporting digital humanities collaborations.
 - Major progress in AI-driven digital accessibility: rapid, low-cost PDF remediation (cents vs. dollars per page, seconds vs. weeks) is significantly improving access and metadata quality at scale.
 - Teaching & Learning initiatives are advancing AI literacy through workshops, GE curriculum integration, and coordination with offices and units to maintain academic integrity.
- Discussion on the challenges around AI use in coursework such as disclosure, academic integrity, learning impacts, and importance of continued alignment with best practices and student engagement.

February Meeting

- Attendance: Ginger Breon, Patrick Collins, Brady Condon, Thomas Dickens, David Fillipi, Jared Gardner, Carly Gilson, Raymond Irwin, Damon Jaggars, Katherine Silver Kelly, Sarah Lang, Elaine Pritchard, Brian Rocha, Cory Tressler
- Senate and leadership updates included questions about digital accessibility, academic freedom, the new fiscal model, and challenges in providing ADA materials through Disability Services in coordination with Libraries.
- Digital Accessibility at the Libraries- Thomas Dickens, Assistant Dean for Organizational Development and Culture; Cory Tressler Assistant Dean For Technology and Digital Programs.
 - Accessibility efforts focus on systems, web content, and materials: library systems are tested, websites are audited for compliance, and vendors are expected to provide accessible licensed content.

- Significant work underway to remediate Libraries-owned content, using AI tools to enable large-scale, faster, and lower-cost accessibility improvements.
- Discussion on how AI-driven remediation has improved efficiency and accuracy but members also noted the limitations and challenges in areas such as math/scientific notation, music, visual media. The members recognized that there is still much research that needs to be done and departments and units should continue to collaborate and communicate.
- Discussion on the impact of Title II ADA compliance on vendors and publishers to meet accessibility requirements, with uncertainty about readiness, timelines, and potential cost impacts. Note- this is not a University/Libraries responsibility or within scope of control.
- Discussion on University-wide need for continued human oversight of AI outputs, support for faculty and students, and continued development of tools, training, and best practices to improve accessibility.

March Meeting

Tour of Libraries Tech Center to view Libraries Acquisitions & Discovery, Preservation, and Digitization departments.

April Meeting

- Attendance: Katherine Silver Kelly, Carly Gilson, Damon Jagers, Ginger Breon, Patrick Collins, Brady Condon, David Fillipi, Jared Gardner, Raymond Irwin, Sarah Lang, Elaine Pritchard, Brian Rocha, Kelsey Badger
- Elected committee chair for upcoming academic year. Unanimous voice vote of Carly Gilson as chair.
- Research Data Support, Kelsey Badger, Assistant Professor and Research Data Librarian
 - Data services overview of the main support areas and research support services, and the library-supported data infrastructure.
 - Strategic initiatives include a working group on public access (in response to changes in public access policies), data repository, and coordinated data support.
- Discussed short and long term objectives of Libraries partnerships with other universities, addressing the data support services silos and the Data Services Discovery Tool (anticipated launch in late 2026) seeks address efficiency, duplicative services, and programming gaps.