

## **Library Committee Annual Report, 2022-2023**

### **Sharon Schweikhart, Chair**

#### **Duties and Responsibilities of the Library Committee (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

#### **Membership 2022-2023**

##### **Faculty, Staff, Students**

Sharon Schweikhart, Chair, Faculty Council

2023

Michael Vilensky, Vice-Chair, Faculty Council, 2025

Lila Anderson, USAC, 2023

Nath Rao, Faculty Council 2024/ Represented by Cory Brown in SP  
2022

Ann Deerhake, Faculty Council, 2025

Joan Cashin, Faculty Council 2025

Michelle Leo, CGS, 2023

Durya Nadeem-Khan, IPC, 2023

##### **Administration**

Damon Jagers, Dean of University Libraries

Cynthia Carnes, Research Office/ERIK (Research Sr. VP designee)

Ginger Breon, OTDI (CIO Designee)

**Committee Vacancies in 2022:** We had one faculty vacancy and one student vacancy (USG)

**Administrative support:** We are also grateful for the assistance and expertise of Elaine Pritchard, who worked closely with Damon Jagers and Sharon Schweikhart, to support the work of the committee.

**Chair and vice-chair for 2023-2024:** In May 2023, the committee elected officers Michael Vilensky, Chair and Ann Deerhake, Vice-Chair.

## **Meetings in 2022-2023**

The committee met 6 times: October 12, November 16, January 25, February 22, March 29, and April 26.

## **Topics, Activities and Accomplishments in 2022-2023**

### **October meeting**

The first meeting of the year began with an overview of the University Libraries provided by Damon Jagers, Dean of the Libraries. This was an important way to engage members in the scope of activities and immense reach of the University Libraries. For this reason, a high-level summary is provided below.

#### **University Libraries Organization**

- Reports to Provost/OAA
- Faculty & staff: ~250 FTE; ~65 tenure track faculty; many student employees
- Facilities: 12 facilities (not necessarily buildings); ~400K square ft. University
- Libraries budget - Approximately a \$45 million operation
- Association of Research Libraries (ARL) rankings 2020:
  - 7<sup>th</sup> among U.S. public universities; 15<sup>th</sup> among U.S. universities
- Strategic directions - <https://library.osu.edu/strategic-directions>

#### **Key statistics on scope and activity:**

- ~10M volumes
- ~3.5 M volumes in depository
- ~1.6M e-books. This is a growing area
- ~3.1M gate count (annual)
- 10-12K people in Thompson each day.
- ~12.5M database searches (annual)
- ~124K students taught in ~1.1K courses (annual)

#### **Content and Access**

- Access services
- Collections strategy,
- Acquisition and Discovery
- Preservation and digitization
- Scholarly sharing – Copyright and Publishing

#### **Distinctive Collections and Digital Programs**

- Area Studies
- Special Collections
- Digital Programs

#### **Research & Education**

- Subject liaison librarians: Arts, Humanities, Sciences, Social Sciences

- Research Services
- Teaching and Learning

### **November meeting**

Drafting and approving Library Committee bylaws was a main topic of this meeting. Using the DELIT by-laws as a starting point, members worked together to create LC bylaws. These bylaws were later approved via an email vote. Among the many points of discussion, the committee members agreed to have a vice-chair, rather than chair elect. The distinction is that a vice-chair would not automatically become chair.

The other main topic was the committee's work priorities for the year and committee member's need for information about University Libraries. The discussion of potential topics was seeded by three sources of input: Damon Jagers overview of the Libraries organization at the October meeting, a list of potential topics suggested by chair of other Senate committees (from the November Faculty Cabinet meeting) and a Qualtrics survey of committee members priorities and suggestions.

Topics of interest to members include increasing faculty access and awareness of the scope and reach of OSU Libraries services and resources, support for faculty and student research, new publishing agreements, support for students and the learning environment, and course material affordability.

### **January meeting**

The committee elected Michael Vilensky as Vice-Chair. The vote was enabled by the creation and approval of by-laws in November.

The main topic of this meeting was transformative publishing agreements. Gene Springs, Associate Professor, Collections Strategist, University Libraries and Maureen Walsh, Associate Professor, Scholarly Sharing Strategist, University Libraries shared details of the initiation and progress to date of this strategic change in academic publishing (<https://library.osu.edu/transforming-publishing>). The committee agreed that this is a key development for faculty, and that many faculty remain unaware despite extensive efforts by the Libraries to share information about these open access opportunities with the OSU community. Some examples of Ohio State Open Access publishing include Taylor & Francis, DeGruyter, PLOS, the Royal Society, Cambridge University Press, and Wiley & Focus. From July 8, 2020 through January 24, 2023, \$2,186,881 in Article Processing Charges (APC) have been waived and 696 articles published open access through this initiative. This is a significant cost savings for campus, and for authors, as there are no author fees for open access under these transformative publishing agreements.

The committee also heard from Mark Rugesberger, Chair of CESP, about a new state policy requirement to promote textbooks affordability that begins Fall 2024. This policy requires

faculty indicate their textbook choice before students register for classes – thus permitting students to consider this cost in their course selections.

### **February meeting**

The committee welcomed Ginger Breon, who will represent CIO Cindy Leavitt on the committee, and Cynthia Carnes, who will represent VP of Research Peter Mohler. In addition, Professor Cory Brown has agreed to serve as a substitute for Nath Rao, due to a spring semester schedule conflict.

The main meeting topic was programs and activities that support course materials affordability at OSU. Presenters were Ashley Miller, Associate Director, Affordability and Access, OTDI and Amanda Larson, Affordable Learning Instructional Consultant, Libraries. A commitment to affordability and equity is driving the conversation around a concerted effort to offer a spectrum of options to make OSU more affordable for students, including the Buckeye Opportunity Program, the Affordable Learning Exchange, the General Education Textbook Program, and the Scarlet and Gray Advantage Program. A major effort of University Libraries is the General Education Textbook Program, a partnership between University Libraries and Student Government that was created in 2006 with a goal of purchasing as many General Education textbooks as possible and putting them on Course Reserves as possible. Thus far, the program has saved students over 2.7 million dollars and covered over 150 classes.

### **March meeting**

The main topic of the March meeting was research support through University Libraries. Meris Longmeier, Head of Research Services, presented a thorough discussion of the ways that the Libraries support a wide range of activities that span the research lifecycle. The Research Commons is a major hub of research support activity.

University Libraries supports research at many undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate, faculty, and staff researchers. Research services include Data Literacy, Data Visualization, Digital Humanities, Geospatial Services, Publishing and Repository Services, Research Commons Space Support, Research Commons Partners, Research Data, Research Impact, and virtual or in-person consultations with library specialists. New in 2023, the Research Commons offered informal meet-ups such as Data Daze, monthly in person meet ups on topics such as types of visualizations and data visualization tools, and Coffee and Conversation Graduate Student Series with periodic meetings on topics such as subject librarians, citation practices, and copyright. The summer the Libraries is partnering with CURA for a 2023 Summer Webinar Series titled Race and Place: Learning from the Past and Looking to the Future.

### **April Meeting**

The committee discussed election of officers for 2023 – 2024, and nominations were solicited. We agreed to hold an anonymous email vote after nominations were complete and before mid-May. Michael Vilensky was elected Chair, and Ann Deerhake was elected Vice Chair.

One major topic of the April meeting was Teaching and Learning support, with presentation by Amanda Folk, Head of Teaching and Learning Department. The University Libraries supports all students, and well as instructors with an extensive number of programs and resources. Notable undergraduate programs are the First Year Success Series (FYSS) co-curricular support and STEP Professional Development Co-Curricular (PDCs).

Wellness initiatives at the Libraries, the second topic for April's meeting, was presented by Quanetta Batts, Director of Outreach & Engagement. Six colleagues across Libraries serve as Buckeye Wellness Innovators, planning and executing internal wellness programs and promoting university wellness activities and programs. Wellness efforts for students include study break spots with Pause 4 Paws bringing dogs to the Libraries to interact with students. A popular new addition in Thompson Library is the wellness workspace in room 160 which provides a treadmill desk, bike desk and standing desks.

Report prepared by Sharon Schweikhart, June 6, 2023.