

Library Committee Annual Report, 2024-2025
Michael Vilensky, Chair

Duties and Responsibilities of the Library Committee

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 2024-2025

Committee Chair: Michael Vilensky

Committee Vice-Chair: Katherine Kelly

Faculty Members: Carly Gilson, Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner, Sarah Lang, Sarah Neville, Katherine Kelly, Michael Vilensky

Student Members: Emily Williams (IPC), Mallika Tupakula (USG), Gabriel Guzmán Camacho (CGS)

Staff Members: Lila Andersen (USAC)

Administrative Members: Damon Jagers (Dean of University Libraries), Ginger Breon (CIO Designee), Julia Benfeldt (VP for Research Designee)

Administrative support: We greatly appreciate the support of Elaine Prichard, Executive Assistant to the Vice Provost and Dean of Libraries, for her valuable contributions to the committee's work.

Leadership for 2025-2026: In April 2025, the committee elected Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner as Chair and Katherine Kelly as Vice-Chair.

Committee Meetings in 2024-2025

The committee met 7 times: September 10, October 15, November 19, January 7, February 11, March 25, and April 15.

- September 10
 - The committee's first meeting focused on introducing committee members, planning for key topics over the course of the academic year, and presenting an overview of the OSU Library operations for the benefit of new members. Committee members discussed their professional background and motivations for serving on the committee. We reviewed logistics for committee meetings and the schedule for in-person and hybrid meetings. Members discussed key topics for committee meetings and planned to complete a survey to expand on areas of interest. Next, Damon Jagers, Dean of University Libraries, gave a presentation summarizing the scope of the OSU library system's work. He described the budget, personnel, collections, and programs. He also highlighted key initiatives and strategic directions. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions to clarify understanding and goals.
- October 15
 - Committee members had filled out a survey on topics of interest for the committee. During this meeting, we discussed results from the survey and planned meetings focused on key topics, including research support, the library management system, special collections, publishing agreements, use of physical space, and the role of subject liaisons. The remainder of the meeting

focused on the library's new Library Management System (LMS), which serves as an updated front-end for searching the library's catalog and back-end for inventory management. The committee was joined by Morag Boyd, the library's Acquisitions and Discovery Strategist and project lead for the LMS transition, as well as Amanda Woodburn, Senior Project Manager. Morag and Amanda educated the committee on the previous LMS, which has become outdated and unsupported. She noted that OSU is part of the larger OhioLINK consortium of academic libraries, and that the LMS transition is in coordination with OhioLINK and supported by funding from the state. Morag and Amanda detailed reasons for the transition, citing improved usability, streamlined operation, and increased security. The committee was updated on the transition process at OSU and library's efforts to support this transition for library staff and users, with planned deployment in June 2025. The committee was able to view sample searches using the new system to better understand improvements. The committee's discussion focused on ways to communicate with faculty and students about the transition and smooth out potential challenges (e.g. syllabus links to library materials, changes in search processes).

- November 19
 - This meeting focused on the library's research data support efforts. We were joined by Kelsey Badger, Assistant Professor and Research Data Librarian. This meeting served as an update to a meeting with Kelsey during the previous academic year. Kelsey provided an overview of the library's initiatives to support researchers. She outlined efforts to work with students and faculty to guide access to relevant databases for both research and classroom instruction. She shared ways in which the library assists with data management planning, helping researchers develop plans to manage data effectively, and in line with funders' goals and requirements. Kelsey also shared information on the library's efforts to help researchers share and publish data, including ways to meet new requirements for increased public access to federally funded research. She updated the committee on the efforts of a workgroup with the Office of Research to build practices to support these new requirements. She also followed up on a previous committee recommendation to ensure proper staffing, noting steps taken to do so. The committee discussion focused on applications for humanities researchers, copyrights for research data, and ways to continue to ensure proper staffing to support research needs.
- January 7
 - The committee met in-person to tour and discuss the library's special collections. The committee was joined by three special collections curators: Carly Dearborn, Assistant Professor, Public Policy Archivist; Mara Frazier, Associate Professor, Curator of Dance; Jenny Robb, Associate Professor, Head Curator of Comics and Cartoon Art. Curators discussed the scope of the collections they oversee and efforts to incorporate collection materials into teaching and learning. They also provided information on the history of the collections and efforts to preserve and expand collections. Members were able to view sample materials from collections and educated on ways in which these materials have been used in research and in the classroom. Discussed focused on ways to increase awareness of special collections for faculty and students, to enhance research involving special collections materials, and ways to assess needs for new collection items.
- February 11
 - The committee's February meeting began with a discussion of committee leadership, given the end of the chair's term on the committee. Members were given information about leadership roles and encouraged to self-nominate if interested. The meeting then focused on transformational publishing agreements. The committee was joined by Gene Springs, Associate

Dean for Content and Access, and Maureen Walsh, Associate Professor and Scholarly Sharing Strategist. Members were given information on the scope of the library's publishing agreements with key publishers, including Taylor & Francis, Elsevier, Springer, and Wiley. The committee was appraised of efforts to control costs through coordination with key consortium partners, such as OhioLINK and the Big Ten Academic Alliance. Committee members discussed the strategic importance of increasing open access and the benefits of fee-free access to publishers for OSU researchers. Additionally, the committee discussed the library's acquisition processes and funding, noting efforts to coordinate with key stakeholders on new materials and monitoring of usage to ensure value. Members provided feedback on ways to improve coordination with faculty in acquisition processes.

- March 25
 - This meeting began with an update on the committee's leadership, noting candidates for chair and vice-chair, and outlining the election process. The remainder of the meeting focused on the use of physical space in the library. The committee was joined by Alison Armstrong, Associate Dean for Research and Education, and Lisa Patton-Glinski, Assistant Dean for Administration and Chief Administrative Officer. Members were educated on the various physical locations for library services and the usage in these spaces. We discussed the increasing post-pandemic trends in need for study space, as well as for meetings and conferences. Information was also shared about the library's innovative use of space for young families and to support wellness initiatives (e.g. treadmill desks, lactation room). Discussion involved ideas for soliciting feedback from students about needs, how to add seating capacity during peak periods, processes for shifting collections to the depository to free up additional space, and ways to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- April 15
 - The final meeting for the academic year began with discussion of committee leadership for 2025-2026. Based on the committee's electronic voting, Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner was elected as chair and Katherine Kelly was elected as vice-chair. The committee next thanked outgoing members for their service on the committee. All other committee members were also thanked for their service, as well as special recognition for Elaine Prichard and Damon Jagers. The remainder of the meeting focused on the role of the library's subject specialists and librarian liaisons to support faculty and students. The committee was joined by Jessica Page, Professor and Head of Vet Med Library and Sciences Cohort, and Tina Franks, Associate Professor and Head of Architecture Library and Arts Cohort. The committee learned about the ways in which subject specialists help faculty and students discover and utilize information resources for research, teaching, and learning. We also learned about how subject specialists play a role in acquisitions. Committee members provided feedback about ways to improve coordination with faculty and establish relationships early in faculty members' careers. The committee also discussed capacity concerns and efforts to shift historical duties of subject specialists to better reflect current usage and needs.

Report prepared by Michael Vilensky, April 22, 2025.