



McGill

Senate Committee on Libraries *Minutes*

Date: 25 November 2016

Time: 2:00 - 3:30pm

Place: McLennan M1.07

Attendance:

Colleen Cook
Ghyslaine McClure
Bastien Castagner
Malcolm McClintock
Lawrence Angel
Tara Mawhinney
Mary Lourenço
Gillian Lane-Mercier
Peter Sabor
Joseph Hafner
Valerie Minnett

Regrets:

Jerry Aldridge
Robert Murgita
Andrea Bernasconi
Ronald Gehr
Dawn McKinnon
Alana Klein
Nancy He

1. Approval of the Agenda
 - Agenda altered to advance item 5 – Joseph Hafner’s report on the HathiTrust moved up to item 3.
 - Agenda approved unanimously
2. Approval of the minutes of the Meeting of 13 October 2016
 - Associate Provost (International) Phil Oxhorn will present the annual report for the Senate Committee on Libraries at Senate on 7 December 2016 on behalf of Associate Provost (Budget & Resources) Ghyslaine McClure. Dean Cook will be present to field any questions.
 - Tara Mawhinney noted that on page 3 of the minutes that the timeline for the implementation of the joint catalogue should be amended to 1-2 years, rather than 6 months – 1 year.
3. HathiTrust, Joseph Hafner, Associate Dean (Collection Services)

- Associate Dean (Collection Services) Joseph Hafner attended the HathiTrust membership meeting on behalf of McGill.
- HathiTrust is a digitized library started with collections digitized by Google, who wanted to create a digital repository.
- Current membership is 122 members. McGill has been a member for the past 4 years. Members include research libraries, Ivy League libraries, the Library of Congress, and 4 Canadian institutions including the University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Calgary and McGill.
- The repository has grown to 15 million records (digital books).
- Of these, 5.7 million are in the public domain. Almost 40% of the collection can be viewed in full.
- HathiTrust has accessed a grant to check if more content should be in the public domain, and have been able to open more content as a result.
- McGill is helping to open resources that we have here. McGill staff are working on items with Canadian and UK copyright to open them up.
- HathiTrust is working on digitizing more U.S. Federal publication and State documents.
- Half of HathiTrust documents are in English. The remainder are in other languages, including 7% content in French.
- McGill library users can log in, search, and download pdf versions of many documents.
- Ghyslaine McClure asked who is behind HathiTrust. Joseph Hafner reported that HathiTrust is headquartered at the University of Michigan, with contributions from the University of Illinois, University of Indiana, and University of California.
- HathiTrust is not a private sector operation. Membership costs approximately \$25,000. Members can participate in a monthly open conference call to get involved with the program.
- HathiTrust is working with the National Federation of the Blind to expand its constituents. McGill's Office for Students with Disabilities is aware of this resource.
- In terms of copyright, the U.S. blanket date for open access is 1923. In Canada it is 1896. All U.S. government documents are open. HathiTrust is working with Library and Archives Canada to get all Canadian government documents open.
- McGill is encouraging Library and Archives Canada to consider HathiTrust membership. This is important because cost sharing keeps membership fees low.
- HathiTrust has become a trusted repository, meaning they have committed to adopt best-practices for digitizing materials.
- Ghyslaine McClure asked which libraries keep print copies of books that have been digitized. Colleen Cook responded that theoretically a few libraries should keep print copies. Since McGill's collection is unique in the province, it is relevant to know whether nearby libraries have copies of digitized material. Inter-library loans could become more costly as a result.
- Ghyslaine McClure wondered if this could eventually result in space gains for the McGill Library. Colleen Cook noted that since McGill is the English language

research library for the province it is more difficult to establish a successful shared print collection collaboration as exists within the University of California system, or between mid-west universities.

- Joseph Hafner noted that McGill can digitize material and send content to HathiTrust.
- HathiTrust remains safely within the not-for-profit domain.

4. Dean of Libraries Report, presented by C. Colleen Cook, Trenholme Dean of Libraries

- Libraries are facing a recruitment backlog because people are being promoted. Positions need to be filled from outside of McGill. The McGill Library is trying to hire for 15 positions throughout the library system.
- A new Associate Dean (User Services) will begin on 1 January 2017 (Jeffry Archer). Ghyslaine McClure encouraged Colleen Cook to invite him to the 16 February 2017 meeting of the Senate Committee on Libraries.
- Colleen Cook noted that Jeffry Archer has experience with on-site robotics storage, which is relevant for McGill. The library has moved to purchasing e-versions of many books and users are not able to browse stacks to get a complete picture of the entire collection. Virtual browsing will work with on-site robotic storage. Bastien Castagner asked if an automated system would take in books from all McGill libraries. Colleen Cook responded that this would be the case.
- Fiat Lux fundraising efforts have been very successful with the help of a group of very dedicated volunteers.
- The FY18 budget for libraries is being put together, and Colleen Cook noted the enormous support of the Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) in providing funds to maintain the library's collection. This is at a time when other institutions have had to make serious cuts to journal subscriptions. Ghyslaine McClure reiterated that the quality of the library collection is a pillar of reputation for McGill as a research institution. Bastien Castagner asked about the process for negotiating library acquisitions with big publishers. Colleen Cook noted that McGill had recently bought all of University of Oxford Press, and are the only university in the world to have negotiated this.
- End-of-year and end-of-term tensions mean the Library is filled with therapy dogs and other wellness initiatives (i.e. puzzles).

5. Community Feedback on Libraries

- Peter Sabor asked a question about journal article access and copyright issues. Colleen Cook counseled that researchers should not sign over copyright, but seek a creative commons license. Ghyslaine McClure asked that services to help with this be publicized.
- Lawrence Angel reported that self-scanners are being well-used in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library. Feedback is that the scanner is easy to use. Security staff will receive training and request an additional unit.

- Tara Mawhinney reported that the computer lab opened at the Schulich Library and 12 high performance computers are ready for use.
 - Malcolm McClintock reported that the first round of allocations from the SSMU Library Improvement Fund is coming up. Application requests included chargers, microfiche equipment, standing work stations, and extended hours in the Music Library. The financial envelope for this initiative is \$700,000 and applications are received on a rolling basis. The funds are provided from undergraduate students on the downtown campus, matched by alumni funds.
 - Bastien Castagner noted that researchers are being increasingly asked to pay for colour figures and fees for open-access journals when publishing in journals. Meanwhile library subscriptions are also increasing. It was suggested that a concerted effort between universities is needed to work against this.
6. Terms of Reference of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library Advisory Committee (HSSLAC)
- Gillian Lane-Mercier reported that the Terms of Reference for the Humanities and Social Sciences Library Advisory Committee have been revised and completed. They were modeled on the Schulich Library's Terms of Reference. Colleen Cook was asked for input, and the Terms of Reference were approved by an advisory committee.
7. Other Business/Discussion
- The Office of Sustainability approached Colleen Cook to propose that the heat be lowered by 2-4 degrees in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library on evenings when the temperature is coldest. This request was declined. Malcolm McClintock noted that student feedback collected on whiteboards often cited the temperature in the Library as an issue. The conclusion was that this is not a favourable initiative from a user perspective.
 - The question of how the AMUSE strike affected the library was raised. Colleen Cook noted that she had received notification that there appears to be an agreement in the strike, and there was no real impact on library services.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm