

Minutes

Senate Committee on Libraries 2018-2019

Thursday, April 18th, 2019 / 2:00-3:30pm | Room M1.07, McLennan Library Building

In Attendance

Dr. Colleen Cook - Trenholme Dean of Libraries (interim Chair), Professor Bastien Castagner, David Curtis, Robin Desmeules, Professor Robert Funnell, Shubhankar Joshi, Professor Lara Khoury, Professor Gillian Lane-Mercier, Dr. Sue Laver, Marie Lemieux, Professor Peter Sabor, Merika Ramundo (interim secretary)

Regrets

Lawrence Angel, Professor Andrea Bernasconi, Maeve Bothan, Professor Valerie Gravel, Helena Zakrzewski, Rod Louisa

Tour de Table

- Colleen Cook reminded the committee that Professor Philip Oxhorn was no longer with the university and that a new chair and secretary of the committee will be announced in the near future. Colleen will continue to chair in the interim and Merika Ramundo, Communications Officer for the library will be acting secretary until a new secretary is named. The hope is the new chair and secretary would be in place for the fall of 2019.
-

Brightspot Strategy Innovation Playbook Workshop

- Consultants from Brightspot gave a brief overview of their mandate around the Fiat Lux library building project. Their role is to update the Master Plan that was developed a few years ago for project Architects to incorporate into a revised plan that reflects current realities. To date brightspot has met with the Steering Committee and the Consultation Committee, interviewed McGill leaders and held visioning sessions to identify research themes. Themes explored include: 1) Learning; 2) Research; 3) Technology; 4) Innovation; 5) Health and Wellness; 6) Sustainability; 7) Community. In the spring, brightspot representatives will be conducting interviews with Lead users from the faculty to determine their needs. Brightspot representatives then asked Senate Committee on Libraries' members to brainstorm ideas that would enhance libraries at McGill. Committee members were divided into two groups. One group was asked to explore how the Library could best support learning and the other was tasked with brainstorming how the library could support research. Both groups focused on addressing items in three areas: 1) technology and innovation 2) health and wellness 3) sustainability. The exercise took about 60 minutes and the two groups met at the end to report back on feedback. Key themes that bubbled up from these conversations included: 1) technology vs. no/low technology in the library; 2) addressing wellness; 3) individual/alone time vs. group study/hang out space; 4) shared equipment, new tech & tools for all. Representatives from Brightspot may be returning on July 17. A follow-up meeting may be scheduled on site. A livestream option may be available. More information to come.
-

Report on Census Day

- Dean Cook suggested that this be tabled to the next meeting. The committee was in agreement.
-

Input from Committee Members

- Professor Castagner inquired about the business models of larger academic publishers and the recent movement by academic institutions towards Open Access. Dean Cook recently received a question from a

senator about the University of California system not renewing their subscription with Elsevier. The Library's response was brought forward to Senate on March 27, 2019. Click [here](#) for the official response.

- Shubhankar Joshi recommended that the extended hours at Macdonald Campus be kept in place. This time, funded by MCSS, is very much appreciated by the students.

Other Business/Discussion

- Dean Cook mentioned that the Library is going through a transformational period with several large scale projects underway. Aside from the storage facility and Fiat Lux building project, the Library is also:
 - In the final stage of moving to a one catalogue system to go live May 1, 2019. Current library management system is outdated and the new system integrates print, e-resources & other media into one searchable database. Online catalogue was upgraded in the summer of 2018 and this phase entails upgrading final two modules – circulation & acquisitions.
 - Working with Facilities to restore the Osler Library space to pre-fire condition. Fire at McIntyre July 13, 2018 caused significant water damage in Osler. 110,000 books were removed and freeze-dried and/or deodorized when necessary. Osler Room “pre-1840” rare materials were not affected. Osler collections & services now available at Rare Books & Special Collections (McLennan, 4th floor).
 - Closing the Schulich Library for significant structural repairs mid-May 2019 to summer 2021. \$38M funding from provincial government & deferred maintenance. We will be relocating 675 of 815 seats to McLennan-Redpath Complex. Schulich staff & collections will also be relocated to McLennan-Redpath. Collections will be shifted throughout the McLennan-Redpath Complex to make way for the Schulich Collection. Low use materials will be placed in dark storage (i.e. non-retrievable). Robin Desmeules noted that users can still request materials in dark storage through Interlibrary Loan. In order to fit student desks into McLennan-Redpath, we are relocating Collection Services & Digital Initiatives staff (~70 staff members) currently based on second floor of Redpath to a dedicated space on Sherbrooke Street.

Next Meeting

TBC

Meeting adjourned at 3:18pm.