

Minutes

Senate Committee on Libraries 2018-2019

Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 / 2:00-3:30pm | Room M1.07, McLennan Library Building

In Attendance

Dr. Colleen Cook, Trenholme Dean of Libraries (interim Chair), Lawrence Angel, Professor Bastien Castagner, David Curtis, Robin Desmeules, Professor Valerie Gravel, Professor Robert Funnell, Professor Lara Khoury, Dr. Sue Laver, Marie Lemieux, Merika Ramundo (interim secretary)

Regrets

Maeve Bothan, Shubhankar Joshi, Professor Gillian Lane-Mercier, Rod Louisa, Professor Peter Sabor

Tour de Table

- Colleen Cook informed 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 chair in the interim and Merika Ramundo, Communications Officer for the library will be acting secretary until a new secretary is named.
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Update on Budget (Colleen Cook)

- The Library is developing its budget for the 2019-2020 and is working with the same base budget as last year with a 2% increase. The slight increase will not cover high inflation costs (6%/year) or U.S. currency conversion rates. As a result, collection commitments will be assessed and some cuts will be made. Core journals will not be affected. There is some redundancy within the collection that needs to be addressed. Universities like UCLA and Berkeley are moving away from traditional models towards open access options but the uptake is slow. Professor Castagner asked what could be done locally to help. Colleen Cook replied that this type of cultural shift takes time and is rooted in the connection between publishing and merit/promotion systems in academia. More and more funding agencies are developing open access policies – this is a positive sign.
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Update on Fiat Lux including storage (Colleen Cook)

- Dean Cook reported on the :
 - **Storage Facility:** Funding from the University to proceed with an offsite Collection Management Facility is confirmed. Working with a 25 million dollar envelope. The new retrieval system will securely house and render accessible some 2.8 million volumes while still allowing for future collection growth. Formal process now underway with Campus Planning team. Going to tender this spring under a Design Build model (a developer will secure land and build structure to our specifications). The location for the facility is TBC. It will not be built on Macdonald Campus. The team is currently looking at options on the island. The facility is expected to be ready in 18-24 months (this includes ingestion). Our intention is to have the retrieval system be robotic. The proposed system is AutoStore. Delivery from collection management facility will be twice per day. This project will free up library spaces for users and programming initiatives. Rare and special collections units and archives will remain on site. Archives will be processing and downsizing their materials through a records retention schedule. Archival materials with historical significance will
 - **Fiat Lux Building Project:** The 115 million dollar building project is approved. The project has substantial philanthropic support including a signature donor (35 million donation). The donor will formally be

announced later this year. Project Steering and Consultation Committees have been struck. Next steps include meeting with members of [Brightspot](#) consultants this month. Their role is to revisit and update the Master Plan. Brightspot representatives will be engaging with the community in numerous ways including this committee. BrightSpot representatives may be attending the meeting scheduled for April 18. More information to come. We expect to go to tender for the architect this summer. Ground breaking/shovel in the ground is scheduled for late 2021/early 2022 and the project is projected to be completed in 2025. The project will work in phases. The Library remains open & staff/services accessible throughout all construction phases. Once the books are moved to the storage facility, former stack spaces will be lightly refreshed to support study and services. Redpath Library Building will be rebuilt and McLennan will continue to function. Once Redpath is rebuilt, McLennan will be renovated and the Library will continue to function in the newly built Redpath.

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 Funnell inquired if the Library would be reaching out to faculty to cancel journals. Dean Cook stressed that this would be a last resort and would be done in consultation with the community. The issues can be addressed in other ways including looking at the print budget and assessing abstract and indexing services.
- Lawrence Angel inquired about staffing levels at the library. Dean Cook stated that the recruitment cycle is year round at the Library and some turnover is standard - it is part of the culture to have experience at more than one institution. Since Dean's Cooks tenure, many new librarians have been hired. The staff here is lean, vibrant and works very hard - recruitment is always top of mind. Robin Desmeules mentioned that lateral moves are also different in libraries.

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

Thursday, April 18 from 2-3:30pm in room M1.07, McLennan Library Building.

Meeting adjourned at 3:03pm.