

Senate Committee on Libraries

Minutes

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Libraries held in the Innovation Commons Room (McLennan-Redpath Library Complex) on Monday, 12th December 2022 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: C. Buddle (Chair), F. Altamura, A. Christians, G. Beaudry, J. Cumming, C. Della Motta, M.

Fronda, J. Hafner, M. Hartman, R. Provost, N. Waters, C. Guyatt (Acting Secretary)

REGRETS: C. Chan, E. Elbourne, R. Funnell, E. Jeronimo, M. Paliouras, D. Rogers, D. Vaillancourt

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approval of the minutes

The minutes of the meeting of October 25th, 2022, were approved.

3. Business arising

SCL 2021-2022 annual report

The chair gave a summary of the discussion that took place at the senate meeting of December 7th, 2022, regarding the SLC annual report. Relevant parts of the senate minutes will be circulated.

Update on governance of SCL & related committees

The Dean tasked librarian Marc Richard with a review of the advisory committees' governance and terms of reference and comparison among them; Mr. Richard will be invited to update the committee at the next meeting of SCL. Workers in the libraries should also be consulted to inform decisions about a new model. Once the advisory committees are remodeled, there will be a review of the composition and governance of SCL. The goal is to have recommendations to Senate in May 2023, to be reflected in upcoming nominations to SCL for the 2023-2024 academic year.

4. Discussion and Updates

a) Trenholme Dean of Libraries update

Fiat Lux and Collection Preservation Centre

The Dean provided updates on Fiat Lux and related projects. The rare books section in Fiat Lux has been redesigned. Seating for students is being configured with the goal of reaching 5000 seats. Planning continues for the exhibition program, the artwork through the complex, technology in the

library, and which collection goes where during the transition and after. There will be a space to celebrate Indigenous cultures. Plans include sustainable initiatives such as shelving reusage. It is projected that library will be closed for three years, beginning in 2024. During the closure, the objective is to supply students with 3000 study seats. The opening of Schulich supplies 800 seats, and there are 438 seats yet to be found for which two other new seating options are being considered. Construction continues at the collection preservation center; the center is projected to be ready in January for work on the interior. A moving company will be chosen soon, and movers will move 18,000 books every day over the moving period. Staff will be able to work at the center in mid-July. The system to request books will be the same as used during the pandemic, and information on this system will be communicated soon through the library website homepage.

Partenariat des Bibliothèques Universitaires du Québec

Currently, Quebec academic libraries are coordinating the service and projects as part of the Souscomité des bibliothèques of the BCI. Considering the high level of collaboration, important projects done in the last few years and the strategic directions that were adopted for the coming years, the BCI Board has made the decision to create the Partenariat des bibliothques universitaires du Québec (PBUQ). With that decision, it was also noted that the Université de Montréal will offer services to support the PBUQ.

b) Strategic Directions

Library cabinet members created the Libraries Strategic Directions document. Four priorities were identified: support staff, transformation of spaces, re-envisioning services, and engagement with collections. For each priority, there were consultations and engagement with users. The document has been sent to library managers and is currently in another cycle of consultation with library staff and librarians; it will then be edited again before it is sent to the provost for approval. The committee is invited to comment on the document and to send comments to the Dean, and the document will be revisited at the next meeting of SCL in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.