



Minutes of the Senate Committee on Libraries held virtually, via Microsoft Teams, on **Monday, December 6th, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: C. Buddle (*Chair*), A. Christians, C. Colleen Cook, J. Cumming, C. Della Motta, E. Elbourne, M. Fronda, J. Hafner, M. Hartman, V. Hoyos-Villegas, R. Langevin, D. Rogers, N. Waters, P. Colapelle (*Secretary to the Committee*).

GUEST: R. Hamilton

REGRETS: R. Funnell, C. Garzon, B. Gillon, G. Howe, J. Kaur, P. Pineda Del Real

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 29th, 2021

The committee requested minor amendments; revised minutes will be sent for information once completed. The minutes were otherwise approved.

3. New business:

i. Fiat Lux Library Project Update

The Committee was joined by Robert Hamilton, Executive Director of the Fiat Lux Library Project who provided an overview of the project to the Committee. The design should be completed by the beginning of 2022 and will emphasize the permeability of the McGill Campus. It has all four levels aligned with a transformational functional character to it and will reinvent the experience of the McGill lower Campus and contribute to the City of Montreal's brand.

The storage facility project is in the procurement phase of the building design, semi-automated storage and retrieval equipment with a projected construction completion date by the end of 2022 and should be populated with books in 2023.

The construction of the Fiat Lux Project should take three years to complete and will begin in the later part of 2023. A strategic Committee has been created to negotiate zoning approvals with the City of Montreal and the *Commission des biens culturels du Québec*.

There will be a diversity of spaces ranging from quiet and secluded to social and active; the McGill Community will also have access to food services as well as a unique

outdoor terrace and green roof spaces offering panoramic views of the McGill Campus and Mount-Royal.

ii. Support for researchers seeking print resources

The Committee was informed by Joseph Haffner, Associate Dean of Collection Services that central funds are available to meet the needs of the teaching research.

The goal is to connect all with the knowledge required, while needs are anticipated and material is purchased to accommodate all disciplines. For example, the recent purchase of the ProQuest package that will be mainly used for Social Sciences and Humanities research. There is an awareness of the format purchased depending on the disciplines, for example, Music, Law and Religious Studies require print material and most other disciplines are provided with a combination of print and E-books. The goal is to maintain a balance which responds to the needs and allows access to all disciplines. Requests may be placed if material is required in a format that differs from the one made available. Publishing has changed drastically in the last years resulting in easier and quicker access to material and simplified purchasing processes.

iii. Collection Policy overview

A brief overview of the [Collection Policy](#) was provided by Joseph Hafner, Associate Dean of Collection Services.

He informed the Committee that there is a fixed budget for collections and choices are made mindfully when fulfilling requests for print and E-books. There are two different methods to submit a request for funding: via the online form or liaison library.

Prof. Chris Buddle proposed a follow-up discussion take place at the next meeting to gain a better understanding of the budget facet of the Collection Policy.

iv. Dean of Libraries Updates

Fiat Lux Library Project

Trenholme Dean of Libraries, Colleen Cook informed the Committee that although the creation of a storage facility is part of this project, a numerous number of books will be available at the library, including rare collections that will also be on site and stored in a state-of-the-art controlled environment.

There will be spaces for a technology playground where resources will be available to support the exploration of technology. There will also be spaces that are conducive to knowledge creation, in different forms, all while being true to the research side of the University.

Schulich Library Renovation Project

This project is ongoing and will continue for at least another year because it is a heritage building. For example, it has been challenging to find a supplier that specializes in the window replacement that will ensure the architectural integrity of the building all while replicating the original appearance.

Other activities

The libraries have also been involved in grassroot services with the implementation of the vaccination passport and the hiring of approximately 50 employees to assist with this service.

Tents have been installed with heaters to provide gathering spaces during the cold weather months where the McGill Community may have access to spaces for eating and to hold meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.