



Minutes of the Senate Committee on Libraries be held virtually, via Microsoft Teams, on **Monday, March 29th, 2021 from 10 to 11 a.m.**

PRESENT: C. Buddle (*Chair*), C. Colleen Cook, J. Cumming, H. Dedek, C. Della Motta, R. Desmeules, D. Dias, V. Dion Larivière, E. Elbourne, R. Elizabeth, M. Fronda, R. Funnell, B. Gillon, J. Hafner, R. Langevin, M. Ngadi, Julie Degans (*Secretary to the Committee*).

REGRETS: A. Bernasconi, B. Cheng, H. Qiu, D. Rogers, K. Roulet

GUESTS: J. Lange

1. Administrative

- **Adoption of the agenda**

A request to provide an update on the course-packs discussion was approved and a point added under Business arising. The committee otherwise approved the agenda.

- **Approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 9th, 2021**

The committee requested that the minutes be nuanced to reflect the fact that some course packs were potentially digital prior to the launch of the Course Reading Service. The minutes were otherwise approved.

- **Business arising:**

- Update on the course-pack discussion

Dean Cook stated that exceptions will be made for some disciplines to have printed course-packs sold at the bookstore (e.g., Music). Exceptions will be granted on a case-by-case basis and course-packs will be printed as needs arise.

- Fiat Lux follow-up

Construction will start soon and take two to three years to complete. Fiat Lux will include storage that will house the University's volumes and archives. The environmental conditions will allow the storage of the collection of rare materials, which will be emphasized and showcased. Approximately 700 000 volumes, including the ones purchased in the last five years will stay on site. The University's librarians are currently working with the Faculties to get their input and need their reading lists to know what to keep on site. The building and all operations associated will strive to be user friendly. It will have no impact on the current development collection policies.

It was agreed that a Q&A regarding the reading list document will be added to the website, to alleviate the number of questions.

Questions were raised regarding the complexity of the spreadsheets, the deadline to submit the completed forms and the room for growth of the new space.

Dean Cook said that the Library staff was open to suggestions on how to streamline the process, which is tedious because it involves millions of books. She agreed to push back the deadline of the consultation process. She stated that there might not be a lot of room for growth within the new space, and that while the print collections do not expand that much every year, other formats will probably compel the University to seek additional storage in the near future. As members of the committee expressed concern about the long-term future of the collections, the Dean reassured them that long-term planning was underway.

2. Discussion and Updates

a. Open Educational Resources (OERs): discussion and next steps

Jessica Lange presented diverse initiatives on OERs across Canadian institutions as well as McGill's current initiatives regarding Open Educational Resources, which have an educational focus. This will require the involvement of different stakeholders including the Libraries, the Faculties, Teaching and Learning Services and the central administration. The committee noted how difficult it is to have a centralized approach to OERs at McGill given its decentralized organization, and the need to develop strategies to engage Faculties on the topic of OERs. The committee stressed the need for University-wide guidelines defining parameters for materials and OERs.

Prof. Buddle highlighted the need to define what kind of input and support this committee can offer with regards to OERs and mentioned the possibility of creating, over the coming months, several subgroups within the committee to think about it.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.