



Minutes of the Senate Committee on Libraries held virtually, via Microsoft Teams, on **Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

PRESENT: C. Colleen Cook, J. Cumming, C. Della Motta, E. Elbourne, R. Funnell, C. Garzon, B. Gillon, J. Hafner, M. Hartman, R. Langevin, P. Pineda Del Real, N. Waters, P. Colapelle (*Secretary to the Committee*).

REGRETS: C. Buddle (*Chair*), A. Christians, M. Fronda, G. Howe, V. Hoyos-Villegas, J. Kaur, D. Rogers

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approval of the minutes

The committee had requested minor amendments to the minutes of the October 29th meeting and the amendments were reviewed. Following some additional comments, revised minutes will be sent for information once completed. The minutes of the meeting of December 6th, 2022, were not presented and will be reviewed at a subsequent meeting.

3. New business:

i. Governance Structure

This item will be reported to the agenda of the May 3rd, 2022, meeting. Prof. Buddle and Prof. Fronda who were to speak on this item have both sent their regrets.

ii. Updates

Access to Libraries

Dean Cook informed the committee that the libraries are running normally under the direction of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). They are however prepared to adapt changes as they are required to respond to the evolution of the pandemic. At the present time, hours of operation are not as usual but there is a plan to allow a twenty-four-hour access in two libraries during the exam period.

The Fiat Lux Project

The bid has been awarded and accepted for the robotic storage facility and the building will be completed by 2022. It will take an additional three to four months to install the robotic forms of the storage space and be prepared for the transfer of material. Followed by this phase, the Fiat Lux will break ground at the beginning of 2024.

The Fiat Lux budget is being finalized and Dean Cook is hopeful that the announcement of a major donation will be shared in June where the donor will be honored during a ceremony with the attendance of government representatives.

Schulich Library

The renovation project of the Schulich Library has been delayed due to many factors, one of which is the complexity of replacing the windows. Since it is a heritage building, they must be built as replicas of the period. The only supplier specialized in this type of window production is in North Carolina and they have installed the first custom windows, the result is satisfactory. Other factors creating delays in this renovation project are linked with construction and pipelines, deliveries, and cost of material due to inflation. The projected move-in date is scheduled at the end of 2022 to the beginning of 2023.

The interior of the building has not been transformed but there have been substantial improvements, such as the addition of bathrooms, applying fresh coats of paint and replacing carpets.

A pilot project called the Digital Initiative Scholarship Hub (DISH) space will be created. It is a technological space providing access to a media center where students can create their own filming and recording, complete virtual reality activities providing high end computing software where the STEM program will also be present. This pilot project is considered as a trial space that, based on its success, will also be incorporated to the Fiat Lux project. The objective is to allow for innovative programming where new initiatives are introduced at a modest cost.

New model of work project

45 library support staff members are involved in the new office project located at 550 Sherbrooke. There have been some successes and modifications done since the start of this project to ensure its positive result.

Joseph Hafner added that he is a participant of the project with additional groups such as Translation Services, Graphic Design and Multimedia, Human Resources, and the Facilities Management team which manages the project. The project is comprised of a total of 120 employees sharing an office space that accommodates 70 employees which alternate between two days at home/three days at the office one week, and three days at home/two days at the office the following week. The hybrid work model provides employees with a laptop with carrying case and monitor to be used for their home office.

The office space is made up of zones providing different furniture and set-up. There are phone booths available for quick telephone calls or short meetings that require privacy, and the workspace also offers a series of different sized meeting rooms. Employees must reserve their desk option for days they work at the office. There is one year remaining in the term of this project after which the Facilities Management and Human Resources teams will decide on implementation of this new work model.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.