

Minutes for Senate Library Committee  
Meeting of November 30, 2022  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Via Zoom

In Attendance: Reid Andrews, Renae Barger, Lauren Collister, Myles Cramer, Luke Ferdinand, Charlotte Johnson, Kristin Kanthak, Robin Kear, Gary Kohanbash, Isabel Lam, April O'Neil, Lucy Russell, Kornelia Tancheva, Xiqiao (Sonja) Wang; Karen Shephard (chair)

1. Minutes of the October meeting were approved.
2. While the November meeting was held late in the month, members voted to hold one in December as well, possibly having a guest speaker.
3. Shephard reported that several faculty members have agreed to be interviewed for the open scholarship profiles discussed in prior SLC meetings (Martha Mantilla & Elizabeth Monasterios for their joint works, Sheila Velez Martinez, and possibly Alexandra Hildago). The profiles will focus on the importance of open scholarship, in various forms, and the support, labor, and other resources needed to produce and advance it. They are to appear in the *University Times*.
4. Shephard noted that she had contacted a librarian with the University Archives in hopes to arrange for someone to speak to the SLC about the August Wilson Archives. She received a positive response and was waiting to hear back on who may be available. University Library System Director Kornelia Tancheva offered to tell the SLC about the archive and did share quite a bit about how it evolved (and continues to develop) and what is upcoming -- particularly the grand opening of the collection in 2023. SLC member Myles Cramer also shared the link to the Archives' celebration (Feb. 24-Mar. 23, 2023): <https://augustwilson.library.pitt.edu/#event>. Tancheva said that major name, including Denzel Washington, will be a part of the celebration, and that efforts have been made to involve students and the wider community in various projects. An African American company has been hired to help promote the event.
5. New Business: Shephard shared news of a Year of Emotional Well-Being funding opportunity: <https://upitt.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1885708>. She learned about it from University Senate Council Member and Law Librarian Linda Tashbook, who founded and chairs the University's Mental Wellness Task Force. Shephard said she spoke with Tashbook about the initiative a couple of weeks ago and was told the funds could go toward some type of activity, a collection of resources, etc. She asked if SLC members were interested in developing a proposal. Members were excited about the possibilities and shared some initial ideas such as offering a destressing area with tea and other comforts, providing puzzles, and sharing flyers to promote University and other mental wellness resources. SLC member Reid Andrews, who was seated in his rocking chair while attending the Zoom meeting, said he finds his rocker to be very comforting. He suggested providing one or more in the library. Many loved that idea and Kornelia suggested that, to avoid potential delays or complications, the process would be quicker if the request came from students or faculty to the library directly.

SLC members Johnson, Cramer, Lam, and Ferdinand agreed to work together to develop a proposal to be presented by the January meeting in time for the February deadline. They will see what already

is in place or planned at the various libraries. Kris Kanthak suggested that the SLC invite Linda Tashbook to attend our December meeting to talk further about the initiative. Others expressed interest in hearing more about it so Shephard said she would reach out to Linda.

6. Other matters: Student member Isabel Lam asked when the construction at Hillman would be completed. Tancheva said she is hopeful that the first and second floors would be open after the winter break and noted that the final and most extensive work was yet to occur -- the ground floor renovations. She reported that the start date for that project has been moved from January to March, with a completion date at the end of the 2024 academic year. She said she'd be happy if all was done by the start of the 2024 term. Luke shared this link that provides online information on the library's renovation project: more info on the renovation project: <https://www.library.pitt.edu/hillmanreinvention>.

The meeting concluded at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted by  
Karen Shephard