

Minutes of the
Senate Library Committee
Meeting of Sept. 19, 2023
12:00-1:00 PM

<https://pitt.zoom.us/j/94967774412>

Attendees: Karen Shephard, Charlotte M. Johnson, Luke Ferdinand, Lucy Russell, Kornelia Tancheva, Chelsea Gunn, Catherine (Katie) Fitzpatrick, Rachel Lavenda, Kris Kanthak, Andrew Lang, Xiqiao Wang, Robin Kear

Guests: Marty Levine

1. Welcome!

Introductions and announcements.

CMJ was elected to serve as secretary for this year. DKN and ER are on leave this Fall.

Welcome to new members, Chelsea Gunn, Rachel Lavenda, Andrew Lang, and Marnie Hampton. including a full slate of students: Katie Fitzpatrick, Apoorva Narain, Isabelle Ohara, Ganesam Rahul.

The ULS is in its final phase of construction. Current projected end date is Spring 2025. Everyone seems to be a very good sport about the inconvenience. KF reports concerns that although Pitt released communications about the sidewalk closure, students did not receive these communications and were taken by surprise, particularly students with mobility issues.

2. Housekeeping

KS hopes to get a standard meeting time/date for our meetings this year. Will send out an email to schedule October.

3. Projects for the upcoming year

University Times, faculty profiles about their open access work: A project started by Mark Lynn Anderson when he was chair of SLC. On hold until he has time to revisit.

Year of Discourse and Dialog: Similar to the journaling workshop the SLC produced as part of the Year of Emotional Well-Being, we may consider pursuing something in relation to the Year of Discourse and Dialogue (<https://www.provost.pitt.edu/news/announcing-year-discourse-and-dialogue>).

Brainstorming of projects ensued. KS encouraged members to take a look at the SLC mission statement and think about projects the SLC could pursue this academic year. She also encouraged students to reach out to their organizations to get their ideas.

Suggestions included:

Promoting recent transformative license agreements the ULS has been making with publishers.

Programming surrounding the value of libraries and how they protect intellectual freedom and free speech, especially in the face of book banning, but also as a part of the Year of Discourse and Dialogue. ULS has done displays and exhibits for Banned Books Week (October) in previous years and may be planning something for this year.

Promoting Open Educational Resources (OER) as an access strategy and supporting faculty and staff in creating and distributing OER. Students are very interested in freely available course materials. Is there an impact of course reserves and OER on author profits? Potential partners identified in the OER Committee and CG shared her work (<https://civic-switchboard.github.io/adoptability/>) that may have interesting intersections with OER. May wish to invite OER Committee to an SLC meeting to hear about what they do.

Members are encouraged to keep thinking and the discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:37pm.

Charlotte M. Johnson