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Minutes of the Senate Library Committee
Meeting of May 20, 2021
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

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<u>In Attendance</u>: Mark Lynn Anderson, Lauren Collister, Carrie Donovan, Barbara Epstein, Jonah McAllister-Erickson, Charlotte Johnson,* Gary Kohanbash, Diana Khoi Nguyen,* April O'Neil, Lucy Russell, Ken Salzer, Marc Silverman, Kornelia Tancheva.
newly elected members for 2021-2024.

Excused: Reid Andrews, Jeff Aziz,[†] and Gary Kohanbash,[†] and Mary Rauktis.[†]
[†]*attending Faculty Senate*.

1. Approval of the minutes for the April 15 meeting of the Senate Library Committee was tabled because of the lack of a quorum of voting members. Anderson requested that suggested revisions and approval be conducted within the next week over email.

2. Anderson sadly observed the passing last week of recently retired Vice Provost Nancy Tannery, remarking how Nancy had been such an important and beloved member of the committee for many years.

3. Anderson reviewed how the new governance structure of the SLC has Lauren Collister and him serving as cochairs until December of 2021, when Lauren's staggered one-year term as co-chair will end, though she remains a voting member of the Committee until 2023. Anderson's term on the committee expires in the spring of 2022. Anderson noted the emerging strength of librarian representation in faculty governance at the University with Robin Kear, ULS Liaison Librarian, elected president of the Faculty Senate and with Gosia Fort, Head of Digital Resource Development at HSLS, continuing in the role of secretary for the Senate. He also noted the Committee's success this past year in having Dominic Bordelan, Research Data Librarian at ULS, appointed to the University Research Council by vice chancellor Rob Rutenbar and the Provost .

4. Anderson announced to the Committee the election of three new faculty members for the coming year who will replace Carrie Donovan (ULS), Clarke Muenzer (German), and Mary Rauktis (Social Work). The new members are Charlotte Johnson (ULS), Diana Khoi Nguyen (English) and Liz Reich (English). Johnson and Nguyen were in attendance and introduced themselves to the Committee.

5. Collister and Anderson described how they had provided Ryan Champagne, Assistant Director of Research Development, with our suggested "nudge language" to be included in the new description and solicitation materials for the different types of Momentum Funding grants that are annually made available through the Provost's Office and the Office of Research, and they were hopeful that open scholarship may now become an important emphasis in such funding

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competitions going forward. The discussion then turned to the ongoing project of crafting a proposal for open scholarship funding. This proposal would seek the creation of a new pool of funding—most likely through the Office of the Provost—to support Open Access (OA) scholarship, broadly defined, for those new faculty hired as part of the recently instituted cluster hire in Race and Social Determinants of Well-being over the next four years.

Collister described the student advocacy process that resulted in the resolution to establish Open Educational Research (OER) projects at the University several years ago, an initiative that has been funded with great success through the Office of the Provost. Russell asked about the total annual funding given to Pitt's OER project, and Collister replied that it was set at $40,000.

OER at Pitt can be an example of an effective and well-run OA initiative that we might use as a previous success for any new proposal. Collister noted that the OER initiative is a fairly common model for OA publication and is easily benchmarked, but that the type of targeted funding of specific faculty demographics that we are proposing is rare and will thus perhaps require new assessment strategies.   The Committee members present supported making such a proposal our principal task going forward in the fall.

The meeting ended at 3:55 PM.