

Minutes of Senate Library Committee
Meeting of May 12, 2022
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

In Attendance: Mark Lynn Anderson (co-chair), Renae Barger, Kris Kanthak, Sussana Leers, Jonah McAllister-Erickson, Lucy Russell, Ken Salzer, Karen Shepard (co-chair), Kornelia Tancheva.

Invited guest: Shannon Wells from *The University Times*.

1. As there was not a quorum of voting members present, Anderson indicated that he would recirculate the April minutes again online, asking all members to review them and send any changes to him within the following five days, at which point he would consider the minutes approved.
2. Anderson announced that the faculty elections for Senate standing committees had ended and that Xiqiao (Sonja) Wang from English would be joining the SLC for a three-year term. Additionally, Gary Kohanbash from Medicine was reelected to another term of service on the Committee. Ending their terms are Jeff Aziz and Mark Lynn Anderson. One faculty seat remains open.
3. Anderson pointed out that Aziz did not run for a second term on the Committee and therefore would be able to co-chair the SLC with Shepard during the approaching academic year. He asked SLC members to consider standing for the co-chair position and to contact him if interested.
4. The remainder of the meeting was spent in conversation with Shannon Wells of *The University Times* about our recent proposal:

The SLC proposes to promote specific instances of public-facing scholarly communication to the University's administration and faculty through a series of publicized interviews with University researchers, creators, and teachers who have mounted successful projects that translate their professional expertise to a larger world. These interviews would form the basis of a monthly feature or column written by members of the Senate Library Committee with the aim of demonstrating the diversity of such projects in terms of fields, concerns, methodologies, platforms, etc. but, more importantly, these case studies would be framed in order to emphasize the types and quantities of labor and support required to achieve and maintain effective public engagement.

Anderson had met with Wells and *UT* editor Sue Jones on April 22 to discuss this proposal. Wells began by stating that the proposal sounded like a great idea and that he had little to offer by way of suggestions but was open to questions. Kanthak inquired about pictures and space for the proposed column. Wells replied that pictures are always good to include and that since the publication is now entirely online, space is not the issue it had been. Length is more a question of reader engagement. He suggested that 1000 words is always a good limit, with 800 to 1,500

words marking reasonable parameters. Kanthak continued by asking if Wells thought an interview format would work. Wells believed they such an approach could be interesting, and Anderson added that we would frame any interviews with contextualizations emphasizing the concerns of the profiles. Wells said that effective interviews require a lot of up-front work and planning,

Leers asked the Committee how we might identify good candidates for our interviews. Collister created a Google Doc for SLC members to list potential scholars, creators, and custodians who might be good subjects for the series. A good number of suggestions were briefly discussed and recorded. Kanthak mentioned that it might be worthwhile to collaborate with the Research Committee on this work. Leers wondered whether it was advisable to share questions with the interviewees in advance, and Wells responded that if you send good questions, they will generally answer them. It was also mentioned that we should strive to feature colleagues from the regional campuses. Kanthak suggested that the community engagement centers and the Engaged Scholarship Forums that are run out of the Provost's Office might be good sources for potential profiles. Collister added a section to the Google Doc for SLC members to suggest possible interview questions.

A decision was made to form a subcommittee over the summer and to begin work in earnest at the beginning of the fall term.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Mark Lynn Anderson