

Senate Library Committee

Minutes for Sept 11, 2017 meeting

Attending:

- Voting Members: Becky Faett (Nursing), Irene Frieze (A&S-Psychology), Elizabeth Mahoney (Computing & Information), John Mendeloff (GSPIA), Clark Muenzer (A&S-German), Chunbin Zou (Medicine)
- Pro-tem members: Renae Barger (for Barbara Epstein, HSLS), Marc Sliverman (Law)
- Chancellor's Liaisons: Kornelia Tancheva (ULS), Nancy Tannery (Provost)
- Senate Liaison: Robin Kear (Senate Vice President)

1. **Introductions.** Members of the committee briefly introduced themselves. Co-chairs this year are *Irene Frieze and John Mendeloff*.

2. **Review of Mission Statement.** The old mission statement was clearly outdated. The following was unanimously approved as the new mission statement:

The purpose of the Senate Library Committee is to discuss and make recommendations related to the resources, policies and procedures of all of the libraries at the University in order to assure that the research and teaching needs of all members of the University community are met and that the highest standards are maintained. The Committee's mandate extends to future library services and facilities.

3. **Introduction to the Health Sciences Library System.** *Renae Barger* provided the attached presentation on the Health Sciences Library.

- Many HSLS librarians serve as liaisons to the Schools of the Health Sciences. All work with Medical School faculty and students as well. Some have more specialized duties working across all schools of the health sciences, such as data services and scholarly communication.
- HSLS librarians often offer courses that are open to everyone at Pitt and UPMC residents and fellows. More information can be found at: <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/calendar>
- HSLS is collaborating with other academic health sciences libraries, including New York University and University of Maryland to implement a data catalog using open source code developed at NYU and being modified through this collaborative. This has implications to align as a cross-institutional and potentially national catalog enabling greater data discovery. The catalog meets a different need than Pitt's d-scholarship but interoperability between the two may be very likely as both systems progress. An update on the progress of the data catalog and how it ties in with other university data initiatives was requested for a future meeting.

- HSLs offers a number of initiatives related to molecular Biology software such as software licensing, bioinformatics training workshops, consultations and web tools.
- Another initiative is offering postdocs the opportunity to offer presentations that are recorded and made publically available.
- Questions were raised about what HSLs is doing to encourage students [including on-line students] and faculty to use library resources. We decided this issue should be discussed in terms of all the libraries at a future meeting.

4. Introduction to the Law Library. *Marc Silverman.* This agenda item was tabled until our next meeting.

5. Discussion of funding for open access publishing in the Provost Area schools. *Kornelia Tancheva.* A faculty member in Physics raised this issue, arguing there should be additional funding for this. ULS Director Kornelia explained that presently, \$30K is provided per year for open access funding for faculty in the Provost Area schools. This money is taken from the ULS acquisition budget. There are clearly defined rules about when these funds can be used. A total of 22 publications were funded last year, from 18 different authors. Twenty-five requests were denied, 14 of these because the funds had already been spent for the year. The allocation for Fiscal year 17 was gone in the first 3 months. Eight of those supported were from engineering faculty; 7 came from the Dietrich School.

- Questions were raised about whether this was a good use of the acquisition budget. This led to a larger discussion about whether the libraries should be paying for this at all, rather than this being funded by individual schools. Committee members requested this, too, be a future agenda item. Kornelia noted that she felt this was a good use of ULS funds.

6. Ideas for future meeting agendas. Our next meeting is scheduled for October 2 at 3pm. Ideas for future meetings include the following. Those seen as most urgent have a*

a* Some of these were suggested in earlier e-mails to committee chairs:

- *Introduction to the Law Library
- *Introduction to the University Library System
- *Hillman Library renovations
- Discussion of journal publishing models, the unsustainability of large journal subscription packages required by some publishers, and the state of open access publishing and article processing charges.
- How can we encourage students to make better use of library resources?
- Discussion of data warehousing and the HSLs data Catalog
- Insurance for rare books and other library holdings. Members expressed concern about the apparent limit for insurance purposes of \$75 per book. Obviously, many books cost more than this to replace, if they can be replaced. What is the basis for this limit? Should it be changed?

- Library initiatives with other cultural institutions in the region.
- What types of library initiatives might relate to the Provost's "Year of ..." initiatives.
- ULS scholarly publishing
- Digital Scholarship initiatives. Pitt has recently joined a digital library federation.
- There was some discussion about ensuring that books are not ignored in the new information environment. The library has a fairly new tool that can search all electronic texts. But what can be done beyond that?
- What happens if none of our libraries have a subscription to a specific journal?
- Do the libraries offer sufficient space for group meetings and work space?
- Do we need a Senate Library Committee?