

## **2022-2023 University Senate Libraries Committee**

The University Senate Libraries Committee met for four meetings during the 2022-2023 academic year. The committee discussed items concerning the committee's charges, including the following:

1. University Senate Library Committee's role regarding the Wheat Law Library
2. Review and suggest a revision to the Open Access Policy for University of Kansas Scholars <https://policy.ku.edu/governance/open-access-policy>
3. Discuss open access initiatives at the Libraries and the status of big deal negotiations
4. The status of the Watson renovation project
5. The Future of KU: Libraries

### **Outcomes of the Meetings include the following:**

1. **The committee's charges and membership:** Committee members approved the current charges and membership. However, during the year, we lacked continuous participation from student representatives, which affected the due representation of student voices in the critical discussions of the committee. We recommend investigating ways to have this issue resolved at the beginning of AY 2023-2024. Also, scheduling and attendance in the spring semester was more challenging. We recommend that in AY 2023-2024 the chair pre-schedules the meetings in advance.
2. **University Senate Library Committee's role regarding the Wheat Law Library:** The committee concluded that no change is required in the existing relationship between the Wheat Law Library and the other libraries, the Dean of Libraries, or the University Senate Library Committee. The only issue that was raised is the access to the Wheat Law Library resources by those not affiliated with the Law School.
3. **Revision to the Open Access Policy for University of Kansas Scholars:** The committee approved a revision to the policy, which will be sent to FacEx for further consideration. In addition, the committee suggests considering expanding the policy to include staff and students, not only faculty. An example could be seen with a recent change in the UC system (<https://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly-publishing/uc-open-access->

[policies-background/policy-history/](#)). While this change was discussed by the University Senate Library Committee, it is not clear if this Committee is the proper place to initiate such a large-scale initiative. Another recommendation that emerged from discussing the policy revision is to re-establish the Open Access Advisory Board.

- 4. Libraries strategic plan, The Watson Library renovation project, and The Future of KU:** We recommend adding this to the committee's charges for AY 2023-2024 in conjunction with the arrival of the new Dean of the Libraries. The University Senate Libraries Committee can play an important role in providing feedback on the new strategic plan for the libraries once it is being drafted.
  
- 5. Interim Co-Dean:** Committee members and the Chair expresses their appreciation to the interim Co-Deans, Beth M. Whittaker and Scott Hanrath, for their leadership of the KU Libraries in AY 2022-2023.

Dr. Rami Zeedan, Chair, April 14, 2023.