

Minutes of the Senate Library Committee  
October 12, 2017  
9 a.m.  
Watson Library 455

Present: Becci Akin, Mary Ann Baker, Tallan Chi, Robert Harrington, Grace Heltmann, Karl Janssen, Nellie Kassebaum, Tien-Tsung Lee, Marie-Alice L'Herureux, Sandra Olsen, Jonathan Perkins, Catherine Preston, Emily Rauscher, Michael Shaw (chair), Kevin L. Smith (Dean of Libraries), Lisa Timmons, Ketty Wong-Cruz, Karna Younger, Mary Roach.

1. Michael Peeper, Research and Learning, discussed a project by Ithaka, "Research Practice on Indigenous Studies," one of a series of studies titled "Research practice on (x)." Librarians from 8 to 15 institutions will interview people in indigenous studies. K.U. and the University of Calgary have been chosen because of their involvement with native American institutions, and K.U. is partnering with Haskell.

2. Kevin Smith, Dean of Libraries, discussed short term planning in the libraries, based on a recent retreat by top administration. The issue of long-term planning has been delayed, awaiting more clarity about the university's long term planning. There will be further meetings with mid-level administrators and the staff as a whole.

The Dean mentioned five short term goals:

- a. Survey the procedure for collecting and making scholarship available.
- b. Support digital scholarship. The specific activity mentioned was looking at "faculty profiles" and considering how to make faculty scholarship visible to the largest audience online.
- c. Distinctive resources: identify and manage. This most obviously relates to material in special collections.
- d. Study and publicize the effect of libraries on student performance. One study concluded that participation in the library had a considerable effect on credit hours completed. K.U. will join this study this year.
- e. Diverse and engaged staff.

The Dean then discussed his meeting with the chancellor.

a. Collection funding, which is "dire." The main tactic with the main collection is cancelling packages of scholarly journals. Last year "Springer" was ended, and this year the negotiations will involve Oxford, Elsevier, and Wiley, Elsevier being the largest over all but cheapest with respect to usage.

b. Facilities. The study carrels are being upgraded; also being planned: a "portico" at the front of Watson, with perhaps a coffee shop; the structure would serve as a safer and less dangerous entry to the library (especially for those who presently use the ramp to the entry). A large room in Anschutz for the use of students in the College is being proposed, for study but also with librarian staff.

3. The third topic was a general discussion of the future. The Elsevier issue has relevance to a larger issue: private businesses should not be profiting from the research of scholars. The main issue here is how peer reviewing could be used in an alternative structure, and

the Dean sketched out a model. Scholars would essentially self publish online; then some "overlay journals" would use peer review to collect material worthy of wider publication. These journals would play the role reviewed scholarship plays currently.

Adjourned at ten.

Michael Shaw, chair