

University of Washington  
Faculty Council on University Libraries  
December 10, 2014  
2:30pm – 4:00pm  
Gerberding 26

**Meeting synopsis:**

1. Call to Order
2. Review of the minutes from October 8, 2014
3. Vice Provost/Dean's update
4. Subscription payments update
5. Broken microfilm scanner in Suzzallo
6. Good of the order
7. Adjourn

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by acting chair Nicoletta at 2:30 p.m.

**2. Review of the minutes from October 8, 2014**

The minutes from October 8, 2014 were approved as written.

**3. Vice Provost/Dean's update**

Wilson reported on UW Libraries' strategic plan for the next three years which includes:

- **Collections and access** – providing access to outstanding and authoritative collections that are central to the success of the university research, teaching, learning, and clinical care programs.
- **Research and scholarship** – advance scholarly productivity through our services and expertise.
- **Teaching and learning** – equip students and faculty with the appropriate skills to be successful researchers, scholars, and informed global citizens.
- **Engagement and community** – works as a trusted partner with users and stakeholders to continuously improve a library that is an integral part of the UW experience.
- **Organizational effectiveness** – develop and invest in staff resources and expertise to focus on strategic priorities and new ways of working.

Wilson discussed UW Libraries' resource needs and state budget projections. The governor is developing his 2015-17 proposal which will include new revenue from several sources, including a capital gains tax and carbon tax which would net approximately \$1 billion. The provost is now asking schools, colleges and campuses to propose any budget requests with the

understanding that there may not be additional funds due to a tight legislative session. Wilson explained that UW Libraries fall under ABB but because it does not generate tuition revenue all the funds come from central allocation.

Wilson listed UW Libraries' request, including:

- Developing world-class collections requiring \$750,000 to maintain UW Libraries' purchasing power.
- \$250,000 to support emerging research and scholarship in interdisciplinary programs.
- Temporary funding for workforce transitions.
- Improving the undergraduate experience in order to address the reduction in staff while library use is dramatically increasing.
- Increase to student hourly rates in response to federal contractor minimal wage and Seattle's \$15/hr initiative.

A suggestion was raised to revisit the Odegaard Undergraduate Library and meet the new director John Danneker.

Wilson reported on the opening of the new Taiwan Studies center which makes materials available on Taiwanese studies in context to China. Wilson noted that UW is the first library system that has developed an endowment for Taiwan studies which has generated a great deal of interest in the local Taiwanese community.

Wilson reported that the health sciences library received a major award from the National Library of Medicine for developing a mobile app for first responders in emergency situations.

Wilson reported on a recent conference she attended for the Pacific Rim University Library Alliance. The alliance is made up of 32 universities around the Pacific Rim (12 in North America, 20 in East Asian countries) with the goal to share resources and scholarly materials while using technology to best share information. Wilson commented that there has been great strides in digitizing collections in East Asian countries, especially in China. However, it still appears there is difficulty in making these resources assessable to the public.

#### **4. Subscription payments update**

Members discussed the recent situation in which UW's main serial agent went bankrupt. UW is fixing the problem and is working with 3,500 accounts that need to be transferred to a new agent by January. Cynthia Fugate explained that UW handles over \$6 million in subscriptions so this has been a large undertaking. Fugate noted that other institutions have already pre-paid the vendor \$1-2 million for their services, a large cost which UW has avoided. Discussion ensued about the previous agent's service charges and differences between subscription packages. Fugate mentioned that UW saves \$50,000 in fees based on certain packages that it pays directly to the publishers. Members discussed new vendors that UW will work with in the future. Fugate explained that UW looks into vendor rankings and capacity before making any decisions.

#### **5. Broken microfilm scanner in Suzzallo**

Nicoletta reported that two of the four scanners in Suzzallo have been broken since May 2014. Fugate explained the machines cost \$10,000 each and the problem is being addressed. Fugate added that the machines are limited to certain purposes but are capable of manually advancing microfilm. A new maintenance contract has been established so the issue will be addressed shortly. UW Libraries is also in the process of ordering a new scanner.

## **6. Good of the order**

Members discussed the recent push for open access textbooks. Sims explained that ASUW has not been focusing on open access at the moment but will speak with WASHPIRG about the issue soon. A comment was raised that SPARC is holding a special conference meeting in January regarding open educational resources that UW will attend. A suggestion was raised to report back from the meeting to determine how it may assist in reducing the costs of textbooks.

A suggestion was raised to tour the data science studio. The studio is a collaborative working space with board rooms and presentation areas that allow faculty and students to work collaboratively together from different disciplines.

## **7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by acting chair Nicoletta at 3:30 p.m.

*Minutes by Grayson Court, council support analyst, gcourt@uw.edu*

**Present:**       **Faculty:** Julie Nicoletta (acting chair), Lauro Flores, Kimberlee Gillis-Bridges  
                  **President's Designee:** Betsy Wilson  
                  **Ex Officio:** Ellen Barker, Susan Redalje, Katherine Sims  
                  **Guests:** Cynthia Fugate

**Absent:**       **Faculty:** Trent Hill, Dianne Latteman, Randy Leveque, Clay Mountcastle, Jevin West  
                  **Ex Officio:** Beth Kerr, Juliya Zinkina