

University of Washington
Faculty Council on University Libraries
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., May 9, 2012
Suzzallo 5th Floor Conference Room East

Meeting Synopsis:

- 1) Call to Order
 - 2) Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2012, notes from March 14 and April 11th 2012 meetings
 - 3) UMass Libraries special initiatives (Marilyn Billings, scholarly communication/special initiatives librarian from UMass)
 - 4) Update from the Dean of Libraries
 - 5) Digital Preservation Network (Betsy Wilson)
 - 6) Adjournment
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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mark Kot in absence of Chair Joyce Cooper at 2:32 p.m. Kot provided members with a summary from Cooper's attendance of the Council Chair meeting. Within the meeting, faculty members had expressed support for inclusion of Librarians as faculty.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2012, notes from March 14 and April 11th 2012 meetings

Minutes from the February 15th 2012 and notes from the March 14, and April 11th 2012 meetings were delayed due to a lack of quorum.

3. UMass Libraries special initiatives (Marilyn Billings, scholarly communication/special initiatives librarian from UMass)

Marilyn Billings, a librarian at University of Massachusetts Amherst who is visiting the University of Washington on sabbatical was introduced to the Council. Currently, Billings is performing research on university presses, and determining current collaborations between institutions, particularly within digitization of media, which the UW performs. She described a pilot partnership in an "Open Education" initiative across both undergraduate and graduate courses which began as a \$10,000 pool of funds between the Libraries and the Provost. A call for proposals was made for faculty, to consider alternatives to high cost textbooks. 10 different awards were given to faculty members, who utilized e-textbooks, electronic journal articles, in addition to multi-media approaches to be offered for faculty. These professors were matched with staff to support them in their efforts. Other approaches were digitizing notes rather than using textbooks for students, creating freely available course modules using open-source images, or saving material and allowing students to print these online (through open publishers such as Lulu.com). After the first rounds of these pilot awards, students were estimated to save \$75,000 during that semester. Faculty were so interested in the program that some began implementing these

techniques over the summer. One faculty members' evaluation was that the students are so engaged, and truly enjoy this.

The first round did not have any polling of students' opinions of the efforts. Despite this, one faculty member reported a huge increase in their teaching evaluation and another informed that they would roll this out to all their classes, even without any incentive. The second round of piloting was announced during October 2011 had surveys and focus groups for both students and faculty in this next round, which will use a pool of \$20,000 this time. The first part of this next round is estimated to save students over \$130,000. This has been a great situation, as the Provost has been very supportive, and it has provided a great deal of visibility for Libraries.

The question was posed amongst different types of media forms which had worked the best, and on the contrary, which had the most challenges. Billings noted that there is not much evidence yet, but suggested that frustrations can arise without enough technical support to guide faculty members. The significance for these pilots extends beyond students' pockets, but makes parent, legislature and professors happy by giving access to students to course materials at a less expensive price however keeping students more engaged. No advantages or disadvantages were cited between using Moodle / Blackboard to distribute such materials compared to using regular webpages with links. Though individual sharing of such articles is probably not going to cause legal battles, concern was raised on such policies at a larger scale. One way of avoiding such battles would be to link to articles through licensing databases. Another example of a legal way of sharing such information is by using creative commons licensed materials.

Further questions followed on the demographics of the faculty members who are applying for such grants, being either reluctant or enthusiastic faculty. The pilot was attributed to have broad representation across the faculty body, though fewer younger faculty members, potentially due to already utilizing such techniques. The importance of providing support for senior faculty members was noted to be important to encourage further use of such technologies, and serve as examples for other senior faculty members.

4. Update from the Dean of Libraries

Betsy Wilson, Dean of Libraries, provided an update of the Odegaard Undergraduate Library remodel. Wilson just attended a meeting of the Architectural Commission for the renovation, where three different color palettes were unveiled, in addition to a plan for repurposing of old railings to be used in the "ribbon" (new railing). The remodel is currently both on schedule and with bids coming forward under budget, with construction beginning on June 7th. Additional funding for the Atrium and Skylight is not yet in the budget, and bridge funding is being sought for this construction. Phase 1 of construction will be completed in April, 2013.

The grant to endow a senior conservator from the Mellon Foundation at the University of Washington is in the second phase of this process, and UW is currently readying an application to turn in prior to May 15th. This endowment would require \$1 million in matching funds, and provided a brief description of

the role. No institutions from California north serve in this role. The bulk of such funds would be used towards training of the conservator, with the remaining money for supplies, renovation of space, and hoods for chemical vapors. Digitization of such texts was also discussed.

An update was also provided on the efforts to restore old Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics films, which is currently being fundraised. The deadline of fundraising is in December. Such a restoration is expensive the films are in poor condition.

5. Digital Preservation Network (Betsy Wilson)

Wilson briefly discussed the Digital Preservation Network (DPN). The UW is one of the founding partners of this network, the mission is to develop a system or a set of agreements to preserve the digital output of publications and the scholarly records. This would join Universities, Deans of Libraries, Chief Information Officers and Presidents to build connected repositories with large sets of data and metadata. With President Michael Young's support and \$20,000, the University of Washington will make a long term commitment on this network. The governance structure was noted to be similar to the structure of Internet 2. The initial important steps are to get institutional commitments, determine where the "nodes" will be, which the University of Washington may serve. Wilson noted that the Economist and New York Times have written about this subject.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mark Kot at 3:32 p.m.

Minutes by Jay Freistadt, Faculty Council Support Analyst. jayf@u.washington.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Kot, Mack, Lattemann, Retman
 President's Designee: Wilson
 Ex-Officio Reps: Redalje, Gebhart, Kirkendall, Barker
 Guests: Cynthia Fugate, Tim Jewell

Absent: **Faculty:** Laird, Kucher, Mitchell, Seaburg, Cooper (Chair)
 Guests: Tim Jewell