RESEARCH LIBRARY COUNCIL

Minutes of the April 18, 2014 Meeting
Room 2601
Du Bois Library

Present: Billings, Hayes, Kalmakis, Kinney, Ogilvie, Rothstein, Russotto, Schafer, Schmidt, Schweik, Wilcox

Absent: Cable, Degenhardt, Elsden, Ganz, Johnson, May, Rudman, Shimpach,

Guests: Button, Connare, Lewellen, Maloy, Warner

A. Comments of the Chair
Prof. Kinney commented that he hates to see both Mr. Wilcox and Ms. Higgins leave us. Mr. Wilcox’s input has been crucial for this Council and he has transformed the UMass Press to one of great distinction. Prof. Kinney added that he is not sure Mr. Schafer would be so successful as Director of Libraries without Ms. Higgins at his side.

B. Approval of the March 7, 2014 Minutes
There was a motion to approve the minutes, which was moved and seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Comments of the Director of Libraries – Jay Schafer
The Board of Directors of the Friends of the Library met on March 29. The group is seeking to reinvigorate themselves as a Board. New members want to assist in development activities, so new committees are being formed. Ms. Connare commented that the Board as a whole is eager to do more to support the library and there is lots of energy and new ideas on the Board.

The Dinner with Friends was also on March 29, with record attendance. The Dinner raised over $30,000. There was very enthusiastic response for the speaker, Jodi Picoult.

The Common Read for the Class of 2018 is Orange is the New Black. The library was represented in the choice of the book and is working with NSO on efforts around the Read.

The campus is in a capital campaign, UMass Rising. So far, the Library has raised $40.6 million, including gifts in kind. We are working in collaboration with other schools and colleges to encourage their donors to place their papers in SCUA. The Library is now in the Second Ask Campaign of the Annual Fund. So far, we have raised $70,000 which will be used for the reimagining of the Learning Commons.

Several groups in the library are looking at workflows in our changing environment. The Information Resources Management Working Group has made a report on their situation. The Head of IRM is retiring in July. The Working Group’s major recommendation is to hire a new head. We will wait until that is accomplished before making other changes in the area. We are also studying workflows of other areas.

Mr. Schafer is participating in the provost search; Dean Hayes is the chair. Mr. Schafer is also serving on the search committee for the UMass Press director. Three candidates will be invited to campus. In addition, Mr. Schafer is on the search committee for the new position of Associate Provost for Instructional Innovation, which is a collaboration between the Provost’s Office and OIT. Mr. Schafer also chairs the Chapel Reuse Committee and is serving on the project manager and design firm selection groups. It is hoped that this project will be completed by the end of 2016.

Mr. Schafer met recently with Julie Buehler. In preparation for that meeting, he asked the Library’s Senior Managers to put together a list of the collaborations between OIT and the Library, which are extensive. Mr. Schafer distributed copies of the list to RLC members. He added that we are investigating a 3-D printer and hope to have one in the Library by fall semester.

The Science and Engineering Library will be closed for the summer while the windows in Lederle are replaced. Staff will relocated to Du Bois in the interim.
D. Comments of RLC Members

Ms. Billings noted that she announced the Open Access Initiative at the Faculty Senate meeting yesterday and it was picked up by MassLive.com.

E. Five College EBL Pilot Analysis – Rachel Lewellen

Ms. Lewellen stated that this project. She said that we have added about 150,000 e-book titles to the Five College catalog, which is a shared collection of titles. This is a pilot project for one year looking at how these materials are used. Ms. Button added that demand driven purchasing is often more narrow in scope. Our model is different in being broader in choice of publishers. Ms. Lewellen said we are using Tableau as a tool to analyze our data which come from EBL each month, broken down by individual schools. Ms. Lewellen demonstrated one of the dashboards used to analyze the data by publisher and how it is used. Prof. Schweik was impressed by the costs the library is incurring for short-term loans of EBL. Mr. Schafer pointed out that we only have this information due to Ms. Lewellen’s use of Tableau. Ms. Lewellen also showed EBL dashboards by patron, title and subject. There is also a Five College dashboard showing results for the consortium, our funding model, etc. Mr. Schafer noted that we get books very quickly as eBooks, as compared to acquisition of print books. Ms. Lewellen said we are doing more analysis, hoping to overlap print use with e-book use. She noted that if RLC has particular questions, we could look at those also. Prof. Rothstein asked about textbooks, which are available as eBooks but which we don’t buy in print. Mr. Schafer replied that we try to encourage e-books in e-reserves to facilitate access for students. Prof. Kalmakis asked whether students know that print copies are available as well as eBooks. Ms. Lewellen replied that it is hard to know how students come to these resources, but ideally the search result would show that we have both print and e-book so they could choose. She is thinking about these discovery issues. Mr. Schafer said that as a pilot project, we can look at how people use these materials. Ms. Schmidt asked if we have statistics about types of users. Ms. Lewellen said there is not much data available yet. Prof. Schweik asked if this cost is going up over time as people use more electronic devices and Mr. Schafer replied that it is, but it allows us to provide users with more resources than we could ever purchase and helps us to know what users want and need to use. Mr. Wilcox commented that this is also a pilot for publishers. Ultimately, we want to make sure users have access to books they want instead of having a building full of books nobody wants to read. Mr. Schafer noted that this project is a solution to the problem that students have not been able to borrow e-books from other campuses, unlike print, which they have been able to borrow. Prof. Kalmakis noted that many grad courses are online and those students are unable to get the print book; E-resources are more accessible for them.

F. Open Access Fund – Marilyn Billings

Ms. Billings stated that at UMA library and peer institutions, faculty are asking whether we have a fund to support their publication in OA journals which charge a fee for publication. This Fund is to support emerging OA journals, not large publishers such as Elsevier. We are proposing that the libraries commit seed funding for this fund, to be managed by the Scholarly Publishing office, possibly with support from other entities on campus. Several other institutions have done this already. Mr. Wilcox asked what the typical charge is at an OA journal and Ms. Billings replied that it is $1500 to $3000 per article and added that we will assess this as we go along. Mr. Schafer noted that the reason we eliminated the commercial journals that require an extra fee for OA is that we are still paying the subscription costs, so they are double-dipping. We propose calling this the UMass Amherst SOAR (Supporting Open Access Research) Fund. The Library’s SMG went through this proposal and it has been revised based on their feedback. We welcome suggestions from RLC. Prof. Schweik commented that it is a great initiative and added that perhaps as it gets momentum we might want to give more emphasis to disciplines that don’t have grant funding. Ms. Billings replied that that is under consideration. Mr. Schafer said it would be helpful if RLC wanted to endorse this concept so that when we ask for funds elsewhere on campus, we can say that RLC supports and encourages the initiative. A motion was made stating that RLC had considered and approved the Open Access Fund Proposal at its April 18th, 2014 meeting and hopes that other entities will also support the proposed fund. RLC voted to approve that motion.

G. FY 10-13 Book Purchasing & Use – Rachel Lewellen

Ms. Lewellen stated that the EBL data is patron-driven. Now she will discuss the print books that our selectors choose for purchase. These views are for the liaisons who are making these decisions by helping them see what is being used in their disciplines. This also lets us see overall how books are being used over the different disciplines, schools and colleges. Mr. Schafer noted that we are trying to understand how much we are
spending on books we buy *just in case* someone wants to use it, and to see how good our “guess” is on whether this is a useful purchase. Ms. Lewellen added that we are also trying to reduce duplication of titles in the Five Colleges, especially titles that are not being used. Prof. Rothstein asked if we also try to measure use of books within the library. Mr. Schafer replied that is ongoing. Ms. Lewellen stated that we will also do some patron-driven acquisitions print studies to inform the selectors. Ms. Button added that we do that already through ILL requests based on certain criteria. Ms. Lewellen noted that if RLC members have particular questions about our collections, we can look at building visualizations for those as well.

H. **Farewell to Bruce Wilcox and Jan Higgins**

Mr. Schafer commented that he has the sad task of bidding farewell to two longtime RLC participants. At this point in the meeting, cupcakes were served and flowers from RLC and chair Prof. Arthur Kinney were presented to Mr. Wilcox and Ms. Higgins. Mr. Wilcox made a toast to Mr. Schafer and Prof. Kinney, saying it has been an education to him to see how librarians think. Mr. Schafer toasted Mr. Wilcox and Ms. Higgins. He noted that it is hard to believe we are already at the end of another academic year and that he appreciates the support and input of the RLC members, which is very important to us and he hopes it is useful to members as well. In reply, Mr. Wilcox toasted Mr. Schafer for his leadership.

**Handouts (available from Jan Higgins in the Library Office, 5-6868):**

- *Agenda of the April 18, 2014 Research Library Council meeting*
- *Minutes of the March 7, 2014 Research Library Council meeting*
- *Open Access Fund Proposal*