

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Weinberg Memorial Library
Monday, April 26, 2021

The meeting came to order at 11:31 a.m., via Zoom Conference Meeting by Marian Farrell.

Present: Prof. George Aulisio, Prof. Kelly Banyas, Dr. Lori Bruch, Dr. Marzia Caporale, Prof. Marleen Cloutier, Dr. Tracey Collins, Dr. Bryan Crable, Dr. Marian Farrell, Prof. Colleen Farry, Ms. Sharon Finnerty, Dr. Teri Freeman-Smith, Mr. Eugeniu Grigorescu, Dr. Jakub Jasinski, Prof. Michael Knies, Interim Dean Jean Lenville, Dr. Bonnie Markowski, Dr. William Miller, Prof. Linda Mlodzienski, Mr. Jacob Myers, Prof. Ian O'Hara, Prof. Sylvia Orner, Dr. Kim Pavlick, Prof. Sheli Pratt-McHugh, Prof. Donna Witek, and Dr. John Zych.

Unable to Attend: Dr. Yaodong Bi, Dr. Deborah Budash, Dr. Darryl DeMarzio, Prof. Frank Conserette, Dr. Darryl DeMarzio, Dr. Josephine Dunn, Dr. Michael Fennie, Dr. Barry Kuhle, Dr. Michael Landram, Dr. Andrew Lazella, Dr. Nathan Lefler, Dr. Yibai Li, Dr. Wendy Mannetti, Dr. Bob McCloskey, Dr. Masood Otarod, Dr. William Parente, Dr. Christos Pargianas, Dr. Adam Pratt, Dr. Robert Shaffern, Atty. Jason Shrive, Dr. Yamile Silva, Dr. Argyrios Varonides, and Dr. Ben Willis.

Dr. Bruch motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Pavlick. The minutes were accepted as written.

Dr. Farrell began the meeting by thanking Dr. Gingerich for taking the time to meet with the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) regarding the failed Library Dean's Search.

Dr. Gingerich welcomed the LAC's input and consultation on next steps, and also welcomed LAC members to follow up with him via email afterwards if there are additional thoughts or questions after the discussion.

Dr. Gingerich concluded that he would send the job description to Dr. Farrell and welcomes any comments or questions. He thanked the Committee and said it's valuable to the Library to have the support of so many. He then left the meeting.

Prof. Pratt-McHugh added that the plan was to reopen many of those positions or revisit those positions, once the new dean was hired. With that not happening they will need to push forward to get them filled. Dr. Miller is concerned about getting positions filled if there is a change in the Interim Dean's position.

A discussion then ensued on whether another letter from the Committee to the Provost was something to consider. Dr. Bruch voiced concern about a second letter at this time. The consensus was to revisit the idea at the fall LAC meeting. Dr. Bruch also suggested the LAC hold an emergency meeting should the need arise before the next meeting.

BUILDING UPDATE:

Prof. Aulisio gave a 2nd floor renovation update. He shared his screen with the Committee and walked through the proposals from the meeting he and Interim Dean Lenville had with the architects on April 23, 2021.

The area where the Research Services desk is was going to be luxury vinyl flooring, but because they are not demolishing that area for the time being they are going have a border of luxury vinyl tile and the rest will be new carpeting.

At the computer lab area to the right at the top of the stairs they are redoing all the tops and seating. New dual monitors will be installed. Collaborative tables and one set of lower tables, which are accessible will be installed. Prof. Aulisio said the architects were concerned about the blandness of the top of the steps and the computer lab. One idea being explored is putting in a decorative Plexiglas screen in front of the printers. It would be aesthetically pleasing and would also help to cue the printer line that students create so that it doesn't block the walkway.

He added that the chairs for the collaborative tables have not yet been picked and they're awaiting samples for the lab area. They are planning on chairs that are adjustable height, half with arms and half without. The work will begin after June 1, 2021 with hopes of completion before the new school year.

Interim Dean Lenville reported that some Library Maintenance money has been committed to getting the grand staircase recarpeted.

Mr. Grigorescu is going to share links with Prof. Aulisio of adjustable tables used in the CTLE for the Library to consider as well.

Interim Dean Lenville reported that the 3rd Floor HVAC Upgrade and the waterproofing for the Reilly Room foundation (the leaky rooms along the back wall – including Professor Pratt-McHugh's office) will also be happening over Summer, 2021.

She also reported on changes in the Pro Deo Room by stating that instead of their past location at the top of the grand stair, they are looking into moving the guest computers to the Pro Deo Room in the summer, in preparation for visitors being allowed on campus in the fall. Also, having the printers more accessible in the room (instead of way back under the stairs) has been working well, so they are also investigating leaving them in the room and not placing them back where they were.

Lastly, she expects Java City to open in the fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Jacob Myers – Student Resolution Supporting Affordable Learning Implementation Grants:

Mr. Myers reported that he's been in contact with the Affordable Learning Implementation Grants Committee about expanding the program because of the benefits that it offers students. He wrote a resolution through Student Government using some of the data that the Committee provided asking that the program be expanded. The resolution was passed and he subsequently sent it to the Provost, several of the Deans and the President of the Faculty Senate to try to increase submissions. His hope is that there would be an increase in funding if they saw an increase in the number of submissions.

He said that Dr. Gingrich indicated he is willing to entertain the expansion of the program.

Prof. Kelly Banyas – Affordable Learning Implementation Grant:

Prof. Banyas then reported that the Affordable Learning Implementation Grant Committee received 5 applications for courses offered in the Fall 2021 semester. The judging panel will convene to discuss the applications the week of May 3rd, 2021 and the recipients will be notified shortly thereafter. She reminded the LAC that these are grants that award faculty \$1000 for replacing all or some of their for-cost course materials with open educational resources and/or appropriately licensed library resources.

She then thanked those who volunteered to serve on the panel for reviewing the applications, and OER committee members: Prof. Aulisio, Prof. Cloutier, Prof. Pratt-McHugh, and Prof. Orner for overseeing the judging process.

Prof. Banyas also reported that on April 8, 2021 Kym Fetsko sent an email regarding the new Pennsylvania Grants for Open and Affordable Learning (PA GOAL). She reminded the LAC that applications for the first round are due on Sunday, May 9, 2021. There is a second round of proposals, which will be due later in the summer.

This is an external funding opportunity offered through PALCI, so if you would like to collaborate with a librarian please reach out to them but know that participation will be subject to their availability. If you would like more information, you can reach out to Prof. Banyas and she will send you the call for proposals.

Prof. Donna Witek – Information Literacy Stipends:

Prof. Witek shared that one proposal was received in response to the Spring Call for Proposals, which is

Prof. Donna Witek – Bonnie W. Oldham Library Research Prize:

Prof. Witek explained the deadline for Intersession and Spring projects is Monday, May 3, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

Dr. Farrell then thanked everyone for a great year, and confirmed that we will send the letter in support of the Librarian's position to the Committee.