Faculty Senate Library Committee Charter

- The committee shall:

  - Work in cooperation with the Dean of the Libraries and Library Faculty, the Library Diversity Council and other relevant committees to develop a long range plan to improve the library and maximize its function as a quality resource for faculty and students.

    - The Faculty Senate Library Committee is a liaison from the faculty to the Library and vice versa, that helps to build mutual support for student and faculty success. There has been discussion to make a diversity statement a part of the Library Committee’s Charter. The library has a strong statement supporting anti racist behavior and acknowledging responsibility that libraries have not been innocent of the structures of racism. The Library Diversity Council is a group that meets bimonthly, led by Kimberly Mullins, and which supports Adelphi’s vision of celebrating individuality while creating an inclusive community with equitable access to resources. The Library Committee is establishing communication with this active council to keep apprised of its activities.

- Work in cooperation with the Dean of the Libraries, Library Faculty, Library Diversity Council, and SCAIT (Senate Committee for Academic Information and Technology) to evaluate the status and diversity of library holdings in light of the academic needs of faculty and students.

  - There is a desire to revise the collection strategy of journals, database, books and journals. Ideally, every faculty member, researcher, adjunct, grad student would participate in this, even if just through a survey, we have been discussing if this can be one of the tasks for the dormant 15 member Open Access Policy Task Force (which was chartered to be active January-May 2021). There is a new Associate Dean of Library for Digital Initiatives, David Hodges. His purview, will of course be an important one in the coming era.

- Work in cooperation with the Dean of the Libraries, Library Faculty and the Library Diversity Council to develop a long range plan to improve the library and maximize its function as a quality resource for faculty and students.

  - One area of concern has been the Library Archives and Special Collections, currently located in the basement of Residence Hall A. This is not an ideal permanent repository because of possible damage due to fluctuating temperatures and possibility of water damage. At the Fall meeting with the Board of Trustees I brought up the maintenance of this facility and the Facilities and Logistics committee of the Board acknowledged that this is a known issue and solutions are being discussed by them. I have also noticed damage caused by water to areas in the stacks on the west side of the second floor, and stacks cordoned off. I brought this up in the February meeting of the Board of Trustees and was told this is repaired, and the cordons soon came down.
• Work to support, strengthen, and monitor the system of library liaison with schools and departments to ensure currency in library acquisitions.
  
  • This had been an ongoing concern since it was brought to the attention of the Committee in the year preceding the pandemic. Each department or school’s Library Liaison is an integral part of keeping the library’s holdings current and it is a benefit to the Faculty to have this system in place. We urge all faculty to make full use of these scholars to maintain a strong Library. Usually at the beginning of each semester your Liaison will contact you about the resources they can offer you from the library. We have seen a more robust outreach from Library Liaisons since these discussions occurred.

• Work to inform the Adelphi Community of the progress of negotiations with journal publishers and updating news of changes in access to such publications.
  
  • The burden of journal prices is both increasing and problematic. Libraries have efficiency when they can pick and choose journals in subject areas that matched their own strengths and interests on campus, but this is not possible with the system of bundling, which is how most journal subscriptions get used by higher ed. This means that journals that are used by our community frequently are in a package with many journals that are rarely used. A typical higher education library spends about 2/3 of the “library budget” on salaries, and about 90% of the rest on subscriptions. The materials budget as a percentage of a university operating budget has decreased over the last 20+ years. But subscription costs have gone up far faster than inflation, while the profits of the commercial publishers are enormous by the standards of almost any industry and have been impervious to market forces. The reality is that the amount of money universities spend on journals has grown at a rate much faster than inflation, up to 5x the rate of inflation. We have been very well informed by Dean Ilik about the negotiations with journal publishing issues and the push toward having more Open Access publishing.

• Coordinate with Scholarship Committee information to be distributed to the faculty about the Institutional Repository, (formerly Digital Commons) as it progresses towards implementation.
  
  • Adelphi has adopted Esploro as its institutional repository, replacing what was in place as Digital Commons. By engaging in a pilot project, cataloging assets for Adelphi’s Celebration of Scholarly Research and Creative Works, the Catalog and Metadata Strategies Unit of the Library created metadata for this collection from the ground up. Assistant professor, and Performing Arts Library Liaison James Cho, authored an article about this process “Cataloging for a Celebration: Metadata for an Institutional Repository From the Ground Up,” which was published in the journal Cataloging & Classification Quarterly in December.

  • There is a Working Group on the Institutional Repository within the library.

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• Help to create an environment of discussion and distribute information about the growing acceptance and benefits of Open Access Publishing as it may work at Adelphi, including developing language to introduce it to the University.

• There has not been a stronger advocate and font of information about this than Dean Ilik. It has been increasingly apparent that the costs of publishing articles in journals that then have exorbitant subscription costs has become unsustainable in the long term. The goal of the negotiations with journal publishing companies has been to ensure that at least some of these companies support open access publishing. One initiative is establishing institution support to publish in journals that do not have a publishing charge over $2000, as the University will pay for these charges up to that amount.

• Carry out other activities as delegated by the Senate.

Library Committee Membership

Co-Chairs: Kirsten Ziomek & John McDermott

Members: Ana Isabel Simon Alegre, Elizabeth de Freitas, Soon Ryoo, Lauren Rosenblum, Diane Santangelo, Kathryn Krasinski, Adrial Lobelo, Victor Olivia, Sandra Urban

Ex Officio: Violeta Ilik, David Hodges