Librarian Committee

October 2, 2019
1:00 PM - Library Room 110

Attendees: Andrew Croll (chair), Danling Wang, Estelle Leclerc, Jeffrey Chen, Kim Owen, Joe Mocnik, Lindsay Condry, Alicia Laferriere

Absent: Hallie Pritchett, Justin Wageman, Guiping Yan

AGENDA TOPIC: Welcome/Introductions/Organization
Andrew welcomed committee members and introduced himself as the new chair of the committee. Committee member introductions were completed.

AGENDA TOPIC: Dean Mocnik State of the Library
Dean Mocnik highlighted the work that is being done in the area of Digital Scholarship on campus. He indicated that an advisory board has been formed and it is co-chaired by himself and Jane Schuh. The advisory committee is partnering with CCAST and ITS as they look at how to handle digital documents and datasets on campus. Information from the NDSU Repository page was shared.

Digital Fabrication Lab: Dean Mocnik invited committee members to stop into the Libraries Digital Fabrication Lab to check out all the services that are being offered.

Budget Cuts: Dean Mocnik talked about the budget cuts being considered on campus. He indicated that the Libraries is participating in the exercise and will be trying to figure out how to adjust to a new normal as are many other departments on campus. He asked the committee to lobby for the Libraries’ needs, indicating that the Libraries is a core necessity on campus.

Libraries Marketing and Event Coordinator: Dean Mocnik introduced Lindsay Condry to the committee. Lindsay reported that she is working on establishing branding to streamline communication to the campus, creating handouts to showcase our services as well as coordinating events for the Libraries. Two notable events coming up are the Alba Bales House Open House on 10/7/19 and the John Klai Thank You on 10/8/19.

Meeting Locations: Dean Mocnik asked the committee if they were open to holding meetings at the various branches of the Libraries. The overall consensus was yes.

AGENDA ITEM: General Questions/Concerns from Units
Andrew reported he would like to see the Library Committee more active on campus this year by talking to individuals in their respective units to see what their thoughts and needs are concerning the Libraries and report back at each meeting.

Today’s time was used as open conversations for committee members to bring up concerns or questions.

- Dean Mocnik indicated a concern for the Library is our own web page. He indicated work is being done in-house on redoing the web page. The Libraries is working on making the page more user friendly. Committee members were asked to provide guidance and concerns throughout the process.
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- Jeffery Chen was having an issue with renewing a resource he has checked out. Dean Mocnik asked him to email him with the exact issue and he would look into it for him.
- Kim Owens inquired on how often the Libraries is called upon to lend to other institutions. Dean Mocnik reported that with the University system, NDSU and UND are truly net lenders with many institutions relying on us for materials they do not have. New items, however, are protected from being loaned out for the first six months so that access is reserved for NDSU staff and faculty. Copyright plays a role in lending as well and this role becomes larger with electronic documents.
- Danling Wang asked about textbook availability. Dean Mocnik explained that the Libraries does not purchases textbooks due to the cost. He reminded everyone that faculty often receive course copies when they are teaching a course. These course copies can be brought to the Library and put on short-term reserve as a way to have them accessible to the students.

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of Open Access Publishing
Discussion was held on Open Access in terms of use for Academic Publishing and use for Teaching Resources. The high cost of publishing was noted as a challenge when the funds could be used for more tangible supplies. Concerns of journals funneling top tier rejections to lower level open access journals to make money were voiced. It was noted that higher end journals may not have open access options at all and department chairs with additional funding sometimes create “publication” funds. Notes are often used in business classes and homework systems are owned by the publishers.

- Dean Mocnik shared the Libraries web page to define what OER is and shared there were links to national initiatives on the page as well. He indicated the Libraries has been working with student government on a joint committee regarding open access. There also is an upcoming joint conference with UND on Open access. Joe will share details as they become available.
- Andrew asked committee members to take two points back to their units and have conversations with others. What would stop people from using open resources for teaching and open publishing? He suggested faculty adopt open resources to see how it fits with their courses. All were asked to bring back and share the perspectives.

AGENDA ITEM: Action Items for Discussion
There were no action items to discuss

AGENDA ITEM: New Business
There was no new business to discuss.

Adjourned at 2:00 pm
Minutes recorded by Robin Hellman
Approved 11/27/19