University Library Committee
Tuesday, December 10, 2019
9:00 – 10:00AM
Memorial Library 330T – Mendota Room
Minutes prepared by Cameron Cook

(* denotes members in attendance)

Voting Members

Faculty
• Catherine Arnott Smith, Information School*
• Lisa Bratzke, School of Nursing*
• Duncan Carlsmith, Physics*
• Richard Chappell, Statistics
• Sean Fain, Medical Physics
• Alessandro Senes, Biochemistry
• Sarah Thal, History*
• Amy Trentham-Dietz, Population Health Science*
• Anne Vila, French & Italian*

Academic Staff
• Cid Freitag, DoIT
• Carol Pech, School of Medicine and Public Health *

University Staff
• Jordan Hanson, University Relations*
• Theresa Pillar-Groesbeck, Theatre & Drama

Students
• Saad Draga
• Andrew Pietroske
• Kristen Whitson*

Ex Officio Members (non-voting)
• Philip Braithwaite, Budget, Planning, & Analysis
• Lisa Carter, Vice Provost for Libraries*
• Cameron Cook, Digital Curation Coordinator, Libraries*
• Ellen Jacks, Grants & Public Services Librarian*
• Daniel Kapust, MLC liaison
• Dennis Lloyd, Director, University of Wisconsin Press*
• Bonnie Shucha (LCC Liaison), Law Library*
Also Present
Florence Hsia, Carrie Kruse, Heather Shimon, Michael Cohen, Chris Hooper-Lane

Agenda

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Minutes
Minutes approved.

Announcements
- Library Collections Enhancement Initiative – new program via VCRGE for faculty and librarians to put forward a proposal for funding to build out collections in an area of interest, need, etc.
- Lisa Bratzke has a conversation set up with Jane Richard after the first of year to discuss how to best communicate with constituencies.

ULC Charge Working Group Update
https://uwmadison.box.com/s/ydwqvy64ikhl3bduo1wkhesvdnmpfwka
- ULC Chair, Lisa B., is on Archives Committee – which is also working on their charge.
- Archives Committee was under Provost but has been moved under the Vice Provost Libraries.
  - Had a discussion regarding where organizationally the most effective place for Archives Committee would be (e.g. under ULC, beside ULC)
  - Realized that all three charges of ULC, Archives, and Memorial Library Committee need language that agrees with one another.
  - ULC Charge Working Group will be on hiatus until Feb. 10, 2020 when representatives from all committees can meet to discuss the charges.

Our Shared Future
Guest Speaker – Heather Shimon, Science & Engineering Librarian, Steenbock Library
https://oursharedfuture.wisc.edu/
- The language on the marker is meant to be a transformative learning framework and make these concepts visible.
- The marker will be placed permanently on Bascom Hill. During the construction on Bascom, the marker is traveling around campus to departments/divisions that applied to host it.
  - The marker is hosted in Memorial Library right now and is part of events and exhibits in Memorial Library.
• There is a lot of language to unpack within the marker; many different learning opportunities within the language. E.g. What is sovereignty for a nation?
  o Opportunities for concepts we often don’t engage in on campus. How do we engage in structural change on campus to make them visible for the long term?
• Exhibit in Memorial Library features the Ho-Chunk constitution, the newspaper discussing the signing of the constitution in 1994, the Ho-Chunk flag, and much more.
• The exhibit in the Libraries is a collaboration with Ho-Chunk gaming, Ho-Chunk language division, and Janice Rice, Senior Academic Librarian Emerita.
• When marker was dedicated, the chancellor made 4 commitments
  o Tours on campus learn about the marker or there is language about in the tour
  o ‘Our Wisconsin’ program on campus will include Our Shared Future language
  o The UW-Madison History Project will incorporate Our Shared Future
  o And then an open goal of inclusion in various ways in the curriculum
• You can apply to host the marker for a month (next deadline, March 1).
  o Must apply with 4 activities about the marker – 2 being tied to credit courses.
• Other resources: Our Shared Future Website Resources (https://oursharedfuture.wisc.edu/resources/), Wisconsin Public Television Tribal Histories series (https://pbswisconsin.org/wpt-video/tribal-histories/), Samantha Skenandore Talk (https://oursharedfuture.wisc.edu/treaty-day/)

Strategic Planning
• Goals for strategic planning – refreshing the mission, vision, and values and then identifying strategic directions
• So far, the Libraries have held library staff engagement sessions and have been crafting the language. The next steps are to engage stakeholders.
  o Finishing this work will be in time with the Provost/Chancellor’s reveal of Campus initiatives.
• Strategic Planning Slides - https://uwmadison.app.box.com/file/573327134689
• Feedback from attendees on the mission as drafted at the time of meeting:
  o Comment: Love the language – especially ‘environments to discover, engage, etc.’. However, see the Libraries as not just to inspire to engage and discover but to also enable engagement and discovery.
    ▪ We hope that enabling comes through in mission via the words ‘curating’ and ‘delivery’
  o Comment: Hopes that we aren’t so focused on the inspiration of the space that we lose sight of making it usable.
  o Question: Usually there’s an applied priority order to lists – it feels like ‘sharing’ should go before ‘curating’ as it is more interactive.
    ▪ Order currently is the order of work for Libraries (e.g. first we curate, then share), but it is good to hear about the understanding that it conveys priority order
  o Question: Can you talk a little about the engagement portion? What is that referring to?
    ▪ Libraries are a connecting place, a place you come to connect to resources, peers, etc. Surfacing the idea that engagement is about bringing communities together
and enabling dialogue. Not just singular learning and discovery, but active engagement around intellectual pursuit.

- Comment: Like that it’s first and that it also denotes engaging outside the university, communities.
  
  - Comment: Use of term ‘curating’, clearly in there because of the act of collection, the decisions that need to be made while collecting. As a researcher, often looking for materials that have not been neatly put into a message already - when reading ‘curating’, it sounds like the item has already been interpreted and displayed for me. As a researcher, don’t necessarily always want a collection all unified, etc. Worry about curating meaning more like museum presentation.
  - We used to have ‘organization’ in the mission. Curating, within it, has the ‘organization’ and ‘acquisition’ components of our work. This comment is helpful as it calls out the aspect of our work – that our work is not neutral. ‘Curating’ acknowledges that.
  - Comment: Is there a possibility of putting in a line about supporting researchers in their serendipitous discovery?
  - When we get to strategic directions – hopefully you’ll see the highlighting of researchers there. When the whole document is together, researchers are included.

- Feedback on vision as drafted at time of meeting:
  - Comment: ‘Partners’ builds in an ‘other’, what/who are the partners intended to be?
    - People engaged in similar pursuits that present an opportunistic partnership. Could be partnership in Teaching & Learning around active learning spaces, partnership with Big 10 about the collective collection, etc. Meant to be expansive and inclusive.
  - Comment: It reads as apologetic rather than active.
    - That was feedback from staff as well.
  - Comment: What is difference between collaborating and partnering?
  - Comment: Writing missions/visions is really difficult. Something that feels to be missing in mission is claiming a space – that the libraries are absolutely central to the teaching and research activities that go on at the university. It feels weaker than it should.
  - We originally tried to use catalyst to mean more direct, active activity. We face a challenge in these are we are often felt to overstep when writing aggressively and understep when writing too weakly. This is really good feedback to take to staff.

- Feedback on either:
  - Comment: Not getting a sense of service or who we’re committing to serve. Audience is important. Whose needs are you addressing?
    - Is it not captured in the lines of ‘advancing the mission of the research university’ and in ‘enhanc[ing] quality of life in the state…”?*
  - Comment: Feels that the needs of library users is missing, being responsive. The audience for these isn’t just librarians but everyone.
    - When talking about being responsive, partnership isn’t a one-way street. That’s part of what’s great about the VCRGE funding to build our collections out because it requires the partnership of faculty and librarians to build out our collections. Great examples of partnership to do our work.
Comment: “Partnership” feels weak as it is not identifying the partners, who are central to this work.
  - Some faculty do think that we are essential partners, however evidence currently speaks to us as good partners, but not necessarily essential partners. That is our goal – to become essential partners.
Comment: Does not read as weak.

Feedback on values as drafted at time of meeting:
- Feedback from staff pointed to wanting to create shared values. These focus on how we want to work together as libraries, however would also like them to be how we work with our communities and as partners. So, they may read internal facing now, however they represent how we will work in the world.
  - We are working on shared definitions of these values now. As they are defined, will be presented again to ULC for feedback.
Comment: Is there a place for responsibility or responsiveness? Given the earlier point about service, one thing we rely on each other as colleagues is when someone says they will do something – they do it.
  - I think they may be in the definitional language, if it’s not – we can address that when brought to ULC.
- Comment: How do these values go into some of these things (e.g. mission/vision). When thinking about the act of curating in the mission, is something missing about sustainability or stewardship of limited resources? Focused on people to people, might be something missing about how to treat materials.
  - Feel like the word ‘stewardship’ should be in there. Might be in our strategic direction work that is in process. We didn’t want to lose preservation in there.
Comment: Were we told that values should be defined in this way? Looking at Diversity, Equity, Inclusiveness in the same bullet point, it seems like they are not given equal weight as the others in the list.
  - It was done to keep the list short. But we should be giving intention and purpose to those. The list was limited to how we work with each other because it was getting to expansive.
Comment: When reading this list – empowerment is hard to understand what is meant by it.
Comment: Last value reads as something that happens by the four that come before it.

Wrap Up & Takeaways
- Share agenda items to Ellen Jacks (ellen.jacks@wisc.edu) or in the shared doc in Box.
- Take the postcard shared by Heather Shimon and share the information out. We will share the coming Our Shared Future events at the Libraries, please help share that.
- Be thinking about ways the communication flows well in your divisions. Can ideas send to Lisa B. or can share at future meetings.