

## University Library Committee Minutes

November 11, 2015, 3:15 PM

Present: Thomas Burr, Jay Percell, Christopher Hamaker, Carlyn Morenus, Cindy Kerber, SJ Chang, Dane Ward, Chad Kahl, Magdalena Casper-Shipp, Isaac Dallas, Molly Quinn, Kelly Murphy

The meeting was called to order at 3:16 by Burr. October 2015's minutes were approved without any needed changes noted.

### Rules Committee suggestions about membership

Burr reported back that the Rules Committee suggested 2 changes and wanted more explanation of why the proposed changes were the best choice, if the ULC decided to not follow their suggestions. The initial proposed changes were to change the official makeup to 6-9 faculty members and 5 student representatives, at least one of which would be a traditional graduate student. The Rules Committee liked the suggestion of reserving a student representative seat for a graduate student. The group suggested 6-9 members, all of which are tenure line, and they felt that the College of Arts and Sciences deserved to have three representatives on the ULC, due to the fact that CAS has 332 tenure line faculty members, compared to the average of 80-90. It was noted that the College of Nursing only has 18. Burr asked for feedback after suggesting that since Nursing has so few tenure line positions, that long time NTTs would also be eligible for service on the ULC. The options that were discussed by the ULC and decided to be feasible were:

1. Leave it as it is
2. Require representatives (one from each college, plus an additional two from CAS, giving them 3), all tenure line, with the exception of Nursing.
3. 6-9 representatives, preferably with one from each college
4. Add language stating that CAS gets at least two representatives.

Hamaker spoke to the typical breakdown of internal CAS committees, which have three members from each area (hard sciences, social sciences, humanities) . Morenus pointed out that the ULC had decided to keep the rules flexible to retain interested faculty. Mandates, from her point of view, could make it hard to fill seats, and Hamaker agreed. Ward suggested assessing the makeup at the end of the year for effectiveness, which Percell agreed with. Burr agreed that membership makeup should be reevaluated at the end of the year. The point was made that the ULC still had to officially change it in order to be able to review the efficacy of any changes.

Discussion ensued. The ULC unanimously agreed that forcing too much structure on the committee would have negative repercussions in trying to fill seats. Burr concluded that wording it to prefer something was what would be reported back to the Rules Committee, and that the amount of discussion and the general consensus that external committees have varied memberships would be his main point of why the ULC had chosen to stay with the language of 6-9 faculty representatives, preferably with one from each college.

### Four possible options for helping the ULC fulfill its charge

Ward prepared a document shared with ULC members ahead of time with four ideas of how the ULC could help Milner. Because the bylaws and charge of the committee do not detail activities, the group needs to decide what the activities for the ULC will be. The four were:

1. Providing feedback about the library by reviewing current services, operations, and resources: for instance, the Committee might review, discuss and generate recommendations about specific aspects of the library, including technology, services, collections, spaces, etc. Each meeting might be dedicated to one such topic.
2. Conducting an annual assessment of Milner Library that captures Committee members' perspectives about what's working well and what's not working so well in the library. Out of this exercise, the Committee could generate recommendations concerning library priorities (and perhaps subsequent projects for the Committee itself). Among other tools, this might involve SWOT and Ease/Impact Analyses.
3. Focusing on one key project each year that connects, and integrates, the library more deeply into the University's teaching, learning and research: for instance, how might librarians play a more embedded role in the academic departments; how can the library better facilitate student learning, etc.?
4. Participating in planning projects related to the library's future: in this scenario, the Committee would contribute to important projects that Milner seeks to implement. Members might provide feedback during Committee meetings, participate in planning groups within the library, and/or facilitate broader campus engagement in these projects.

Ward then went over the pros and cons of each. For item 1, there would not be much work outside of meetings, but the challenge is that libraries are changing so feedback through a traditional library mindset would not be helpful.

For item 2, the committee would be doing the majority of the activities related to conducting the assessment and creating recommendations within the meeting time as well.

For item 3, Ward suggested several other project ideas, all of which the ULC members were interested by. A discussion of Milner's acquisitions budget and how the funds are allocated followed, and a brief description of open access versus traditional journal publishing occurred for the benefit of the student representatives.

For item 4, Ward discussed the internal Milner committees focused on 6 achievable projects.

The group discussed the possibilities and came to the conclusion that, while they would like to do all of them, the needs of the library should come first. Discussion ensued, and the conclusion was that in January Ward would present on the future of academic libraries as a whole and where Milner may be

headed. In February and March, the group would brainstorm further ideas for innovative services. In April, the group will plan to attend the Bryant Jackson Lectureship talk given by Joan Lippencott and then meet a week later than usual to discuss those ideas. The May meeting activities will be dependent on the outcomes of the first four.

Study Breaks, the Milner event with free coffee and donuts, was mentioned at the end as a possible volunteer activity for the ULC members. Casper-Shipp will send out information about dates and times help is still needed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, January 13, 3:15 pm