



COUNCIL ON THE LIBRARIES

Wednesday, 22 April 2020

12noon – 1:00pm

Zoom Meeting:

<https://dartmouth.zoom.us/j/827376582>

Library

Minutes

Present: Aguado, Betsinger, Castelot, Chor, Clarke, Dusseau, Glueck, McCabe, Mehrer, Parker, Snyder, Webb

Apologies: Davis, Francis, Goodman

Library Leadership Team: Chamberlain, Peterson, Taxman

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

2. Minutes of meeting held on March 11, 2020

The council approved the minutes of the meeting held on March 11, 2020.

3. There were no updates or matters arising from the previous meeting.

4. Update on Library Services – Spring Term 2020

Sue Mehrer, Dean of Libraries

Ken Peterson, Associate Librarian for Access & Collections Strategies

Jennifer Taxman, Associate Librarian for Research and Learning

Daniel Chamberlain, Associate Librarian for Digital Strategies

The Dean reported that since closing its doors due to COVID-19, the Library had quickly adapted its services and resources in order to continue providing robust support to students, faculty and staff in their learning, teaching and research.

Ken Peterson explained that while closed, the Library still has some staff on site to provide support to the Dartmouth community. Access services has two teams of four working alternate weeks in Baker Berry, and two staff are working in the Depository and Records Management facility. Library patrons continue to be able to request items from the stacks, and staff will retrieve the items, charge them out to the patron, and make them ready for pick up in the Novack Café. The Library is also providing scans of books and articles from our collections in support of research and courses. In addition, the Library is requesting book chapters and articles through interlibrary loan for materials not owned by Dartmouth.

At the Records Management and Depository facility, staff are providing scanned materials from the Records Center in support of Dartmouth staff working remotely and retrieving and scanning materials from the Library collections at the depository.

Jennifer Taxman gave an overview of remote services available from the teaching and learning teams of the Library. In planning for the Spring term, librarians worked with DCAL, ITC staff, and learning designers to help faculty prepare for courses. During the first few weeks of the semester, staff fielded 325 remote reference inquiries. Feldberg Librarians supported 280 Tuck students working on the first-year projects. The Book Arts Workshop sent course kits to students in a Religion/Jewish Studies course that contained parchment, papyrus, and a calligraphy pen. In the area of instruction, librarians have been synchronously teaching dozens of course sessions and workshops and offering expanded asynchronous support through research guides and recorded tutorials. In addition, biomedical librarians have been teaching non-clinical EBM electives, and the special collections staff prepared materials for about 20 courses through scanning materials and producing videos to use in their teaching.

Daniel Chamberlain updated the Council on additional support efforts for remote teaching and learning. The Library prepared our holdings for the Internet Archive Open Library, to facilitate digital lending of additional copies of books. Many of our vendors have extended access to e-books, journals, and other resources that would not normally be part of our subscriptions. This access is only available for limited time. Links to this vendor content has been made available on the Library's website and can be accessed here: <https://researchguides.dartmouth.edu/extendedcontentaccess>

Staff from the Library and ITC collaborated to develop an 11-session Reproducible Research Workshop Series that was targeted to graduate students, faculty, and advanced undergraduates. In addition, the Library is offering an open and reproducible science journal club called ReproducibiliTeas and is continuing with direct course engagement and individual consultations.

Realizing that the Library serves as social space, a study space, and an important part of the community, our communications plan has included increased outreach to students and alumni on social media platforms. To date, the Library has run competitions that support local businesses and is offering virtual drop-in creativity sessions hosted by the Library's Book Arts Workshop.

5. Feedback on Remote Teaching, Learning and Research – Spring Term 2020

The Library was interested in learning about our academic community's experiences over the Spring term and asked members of the Council for feedback on remote teaching and learning so far. Council members provided the following comments:

Challenging experiences:

- Incredibly short timeframe to move to remote instruction
- Some issues with technology, but overall the technology has worked well
- Difficult to be aware of all the resources and services the Library was offering during this time
- Access to textbooks for students was particularly difficult

Positive experiences:

- Data support and instruction for engineering has been very effective
- The Library's scanning services were much appreciated
- The student representative on the Council reported a positive teaching and learning experience
- The graduate student representative reported that research continued to go well and was well supported (although there were queries about furloughs and graduate student stipends)
- Rauner special collections staff had been very helpful in getting course materials ready and providing video instruction.

Recommendations:

- Library to increase communications in relation to resources available to faculty in preparation for summer term. This needs to happen early to give faculty time to work with liaison librarians to identify resources for teaching.
- Anything the Library can do to overcome the challenges in relation to textbooks
- Promotion of library resources, services and expertise needs to be ongoing to reach the academic community.

6. Financial Impact of COVID-19

Sue Mehrer, Dean of Libraries

The Dean explained that COVID-19 will have a significant financial impact on both the College and the Library for some time. Across Dartmouth, there is a hiring freeze and there will be no merit salary increases for FY21. In addition, all departments had been given a new savings target for Q4 of the current financial year. The Library's target is \$250K in addition to any savings resulting from staff vacancies. It is anticipated that financial challenges will continue for the next few years. At this time, there has been no communication in relation to the anticipated budget cuts for FY21 and beyond and the Dean will update the Council once the financial targets for the Library are known.

7. Any other business (AOB)

None

8. Upcoming meetings:
Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Meeting concluded at: 12:56