



Library

COUNCIL ON THE LIBRARIES

Wednesday, 20 May 2020

12noon – 1:00pm

Zoom Meeting:

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

Minutes

Present: Aguado, Betsinger, Castelot, Chor, Clarke, Davis, Dusseau, Glueck, McCabe (Chair), Mehrer, Parker, Snyder, Webb,

Apologies: Francis, Goodman

Library Leadership Team: Chamberlain, Peterson, Taxman

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

2. Minutes of meeting held on April 22, 2020

The council approved the minutes of the meeting held on April 22, 2020.

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

4. Scenario Planning for Library Services FY21

Library Leadership Team

Sue Mehrer, Dean of Libraries

Daniel Chamberlain, Associate Librarian for Digital Strategies

Ken Peterson, Associate Librarian for Access & Collections Strategies

Jennifer Taxman, Associate Librarian for Research and Learning

Daniel Chamberlain explained that due to the ongoing pandemic, the Library assumes that physical distancing and reducing the density of students, staff and faculty will be part of operations for some time, even after students return to campus. The Library will be responsible for details around services and workflows within library environments.

The Library will continue to fully support teaching and research while keeping the health of the staff and community at the forefront of any operational decisions, and with appropriate safety measures, is planning for increasing access to resources and spaces.

The Library reopening will be taking a phased approach with the potential for reintroducing some on-campus services over the summer. We will continue to plan for multiple

scenarios for the fall term—full residential; hybrid residential/remote; and full remote - until the decision is announced at the end of June.

Ken Peterson discussed the areas of consideration for fall scenario planning—space, services, research and teaching, and remote learning. Usable space in the library will decrease to maintain physical distancing protocols and the spaces will be demarcated through signage, policies and physical glass barriers as appropriate.

Within the area of services, the Library is continuing contact free delivery of materials and is planning for phased implementation of browsing/self-service from stacks through controlled access, and prioritizing options for electronic materials. Access to special collections and service areas may be by appointment only for some time. Library hours may need to be adjusted to accommodate increased cleaning protocols and revised staffing schedules.

Jennifer Taxman discussed the considerations around Library research and teaching. If returning students are quarantined, they will require full remote support, including any Library orientations. We will need to rethink our orientations and focus more on Library services and less on the physical spaces. If classes have a mix of in person and remote students, the Library will need to ensure equitable access to library instruction, services and collections. We plan to develop a mix of asynchronous and synchronous workshops, tutorial options, and instructional design scenarios to optimize active learning.

Building upon our experiences from the Spring term, the Library will focus on electronic resources and discovery improvements, engage the faculty in planning well before the start of term, pilot the Leganto system over the summer, and focus the website on remote services.

Mitch Davis commented that the College is in the process of securing vendors to improve the wi-fi access to students in residence halls on campus.

5. Orientation for New Faculty - Feedback from the Council

The Council provided feedback on what new faculty should know about the Library?

- Librarians provide support for faculty teaching and research.
- Faculty need to know how to access electronic resources, in particular data sets, and who is the point person within the Library for that information.
- The Library is not just a resource for library questions. Librarians can connect them to right person across campus for a variety of issues.

- Libraries have an open access publishing fund, which is a great resource for students as well as faculty.
- Faculty should know that borrow direct is available for students.
- Articles and book chapters can accessed by students from collections.
- It might be helpful to have a readily available depository about public domain textbooks.

6. Update on Financial Impact of COVID-19

Sue Mehrer, Dean of Libraries

The Dean explained that the Library is considering the financial impact for FY21 and beyond. The Library is trying to protect staff positions and collections and look for ways to consolidate services. Due to the previous four years of budget reductions, there is not much left to trim. In response to a question from a Council member about cuts to staff, the Dean said that we are planning for various scenarios and that we will do all we can to protect positions. On the collections side, the Library is actively trying to negotiate cost freezes/reductions associated with electronic collections.

7. Update on FY20 Priorities in light of COVID-19

Sue Mehrer, Dean of Libraries

The work on reviewing our strategic objectives & priorities and the Library's core values has been interrupted by the pandemic and associated emergency response. The Library will carry this work over into the next year and will incorporate the lessons learned during this time.

Regarding the major capital projects, the Library Collections & Services Facility (LCSF) project is on hold and being reviewed. Its development may be delayed. The Berry Library project has come to a halt for now as fundraising efforts are focused on financial aid needs resulting from the pandemic. This will cause the Berry project to have a longer timeframe than originally planned.

The KAF café in the Library has been permanently closed.

8. Any other business (AOB)

It was suggested that if freshmen are staggered in their arrival on campus, the Library may need to have multiple orientation sessions or recorded sessions.

9. Upcoming meetings:

This was the last meeting of FY20 and the Chair thanked Council for their service, a sentiment that was echoed by Dean.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56