



**Library**

## **COUNCIL ON THE LIBRARIES**

**Wednesday, 21 April 2021**

**12noon – 1:00pm**

### Minutes

Present: Castelot, Chor, Davis, Glueck, Goodman, McCabe (chair), McDonald, Mehrer, Parker, Rose, Singh, Skinner, Snyder, Tell

Apologies: Clarke (Sabbatical), Green, Webb

Library Leadership Team: Chamberlain, Peterson, Taxman

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of meeting held on March 17, 2021  
Approved as written.
3. Matters arising from previous meeting

In respect to the agenda item on the role of the Council on the Libraries, Dean of Libraries Sue Mehrer reported that she had attended the Arts & Sciences Committee on Organization and Policy meeting on March 30 where she reported on the Council's charge and recent discussions. Her understanding is that the Committee on Organization and Policy will make recommendations on all the Provost councils to the Provost's office.

4. Update on discussions with departments re: Kresge and Paddock libraries

Associate Librarian for Research & Learning Jennifer Taxman reported that the Library continues to meet with departments, faculty and students to gain more detailed understanding of how the collections are being used, which aspects are of particular value and how we need to approach planning to ensure ongoing support for the teaching, learning and research needs of the departments.

For the physical sciences departments, the main themes include the importance of the physical space for both study and as a science community hub; the value of the course reserves collection and proximity of that collection to classrooms; and the importance of keeping the printed science collection together on campus.

Ongoing discussions with the music department also highlighted the importance of keeping the music collections together to facilitate the integrated teaching needs that draw on the book, audio and music scores for immersive learning. The need for study space and space for the music community to come together was also greatly emphasized. The Associate Dean for Arts & Humanities is involved in all these discussions, particularly as they pertain to the space planning for the reimagined Hopkins Center.

In response to questions from the members of the Council, Jennifer and Sue explained:

- *Space in Fairchild*: The Library had been in touch with campus planning to outline the ongoing need for study and community space in Fairchild and had been told that the study space area in the current Kresge library would remain available. Going forward, the Library will coordinate discussions with faculty and students from the physical sciences to explore options for creating a science community hub and study space in Fairchild. This space will no longer be managed by the Library, but librarians would connect with students and faculty in that space to support study and programming. Some departments have expressed interest in the space currently occupied by the print collections; Sue explained that space planning is the remit of Campus Services and is coordinated centrally.
- *Collections*: Locations to accommodate both the physical sciences and music collections have been identified in Baker-Berry; final decisions are pending.
- *Staff*: In relation to staff previously working at Kresge and Paddock libraries, Jennifer reported that the two staff primarily responsible for circulation and collections at Paddock were now part of the Baker-Berry access services team. Their expertise will still be available, but as part of the bigger team. The Librarian for Music & Performing Arts will continue supporting the teaching, learning and research needs of those departments. The Kresge Library supervisor, who recently completed her MSIS degree, had accepted a new role as Library Director of a public library in Maine. Jennifer also reported that Library was currently recruiting a new STEM liaison librarian with a view to having this vacancy filled by the beginning of the fall term.

## 5. Library strategic directions and developments

Against a background of a changing higher education landscape; the rapidly evolving information, technology and publishing eco-systems; as well as national and global social justice movements, the Library is carefully considering its future directions and developments. Reflecting the goal to engage with the Council early in the process, Sue briefly outlined four high-level areas that will influence the Library's strategic planning going forward:

- i) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice and the Library's role in advancing DEI and social justice at Dartmouth.
- ii) Collection Development and Management: Leading in the acquisition and management of the scholarly record.
- iii) Fundraising and Development: raising the Library's profile and its central role in the academic mission of Dartmouth
- iv) The Evolution of Scholarly Publishing, Open Access, business models of big publishers and alignment to scholarly values.

Council members expressed interest in engaging with Library leadership on these areas and wondered how best to proceed. Members suggested they would need to work outside of the regularly scheduled Council meetings, perhaps through subcommittees, in order to involve faculty and the larger campus community. It was stressed that the work would need to be mapped over the year.

## 6. Update on Research Data Services

Associate Librarian for Digital Strategies Daniel Chamberlain shared some high-level framing to accompany the Council Brief on Research Data Services that was circulated. He noted that since the last update in November of 2019, expanded demand for research data services across divisions and schools led to the appointment of a Head of Research Data Services and the establishment of a dedicated program focused on this work. Although data- and data science related efforts are

increasing in many ways across the institution, the Library is especially well placed to engage emerging data practices. Beyond our competence in data management, analysis, and visualization, the Library has unique expertise in the sourcing and the sharing of data in support of Dartmouth-produced research. Two dedicated Research Data Program staff members are now working in collaboration with other librarians and ITC's Research, Teaching, and Learning team to support data-related work in the undergraduate curriculum, provide data-related consultations to advanced researchers, to offer workshops and training programs to graduate students, to launch a research data sharing infrastructure (Dartmouth Dataverse), and to increase capabilities around computational textual analysis of Library owned and licensed collections.

Multiple council members noted that their own courses and research projects have benefited from support offered by Library staff, and the CIO noted that the data efforts are the result of improved collaboration between the Library and ITC in recent years.

7. Any other business (AOB)  
None.

The Chair encouraged members to submit any proposed agenda items.

Upcoming meetings:  
May 19, 2021