COUNCIL ON THE LIBRARIES

Tuesday, 18 April 2023
12noon – 1:00pm

Library

Minutes

Present: Cantor, Castelot, Chor, Donovan, Gleiser, Goodman, Mehrer, Olivetti, Parker (Chair), Singh, Skinner, Tell, Webster

Apologies: Davis, Millman, Kim, Sunde, Vereshchuk

Library Leadership Team: Chamberlain, Johnson, Taxman

Guests: Leligdon, Mikecz, Stone

1. Welcome
   The Chair and Dean welcomed everyone.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 14 March 2023
   The Minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting were approved as written.

3. Introducing Qiana Johnson, Associate Dean of Libraries for Collections & Content Strategies
   The Dean introduced Qiana Johnson, who joined the Dartmouth Library in February as Associate Dean of Libraries for Collections & Content Strategies.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting
   None.

5. Generative AI & Library
   Lora Leligdon, Jeremy Mikecz, and Simon Stone from the Library's Research Data Services program presented on generative AI, covering some of the technical background, societal context, and Library/campus implications.

   Using ChatGPT as an example, they demonstrated how large language models process prompts to generate a sequence of words that resemble a pattern the model has seen during training. Importantly, these models currently have no notion of facts or truth. For example, when asked to cite sources in response to a prompt, ChatGPT provided several "probable" citations for sources that did not in fact exist. The response offered looked like a correctly formatted (patterned) citation, but the sources themselves were made up.

   Understanding how these large language learning models work can help us understand their usefulness and limitations. ChatGPT was trained to generate human-seeming conversation and

might be useful for brainstorming/ideation, offering different revisions of a paragraph, helping with very specific coding problems, and infilling/augmenting text.

To understand AI in a societal context, it's important to ask the right questions. Instead of a typical question such as, "Is this AI sentient?", a better question would be, "What data is it trained on?" Instead of "How great (or terrible) is this technology?", better questions would be: "Who controls it? Who designed it? Who has access to it? Who will benefit the most/least? Who regulates its use?" For some people, "Will I lose my job?" is a serious concern, but for most people, a better question would be, "How will my job change?"

On college campuses, a common question is, "How can we prevent or catch students who use AI to cheat?" A better question is, "How can we prepare our students for living in an AI-filled world?" Dartmouth upholds the Academic Honor Principle and does not support the use of plagiarism checkers, so it is unlikely to support using AI-detectors. There have been various approaches to AI in the classroom, with some professors allowing students to use these tools, and others taking a more defensive approach, trying to "AI-proof" assignments. Faculty are also navigating how to integrate AI into their own research and scholarship.

For the Library, AI has implications across nearly all departments and services. AI will impact the ways we teach data and information literacy, how we conduct systematic and literature reviews, publisher policies, authorship guidelines, copyright, collections management, and discovery systems. We are already working to ensure that Library staff are up to speed on how these tools work, their potential impact on society, what they do well and not so well, and how to distinguish authentic/valid information from misinformation.

Council members expressed appreciation for the presentation and asked whether the Research Data Services team will be doing departmental outreach to more faculty. As always, departmental liaison librarians will be a good first resource, and the RDS team can be available to present or consult as needed. The RDS team is collaborating with Research Computing and DCAL, and are monitoring the technology as it continues to evolve.

Faculty members indicated it would be helpful and important to know how their colleagues are addressing AI in their syllabi – samples of different approaches would be very useful. There was strong interest in learning more, and perhaps bringing Research Computing and DCAL to a future meeting. DCAL currently hosts a "How do I teach with Generative AI" page.

6. Short Overview of Collections & Content Strategies
   Qiana Johnson provided an overview of her work in collections and content strategies. In recent decades, the volume of scholarly publishing has significantly increased. Annual output has risen from just under 60,000 academic titles published in North America in 1989 to almost 165,000 in 2019. Similar growth can be seen in the number of academic journals, as well as the various formats in which scholarly conversations happen—ebooks and online journals, streaming media, etc. Scholarship is also increasingly reflecting the complexity of society through a rise in interdisciplinarity.

   This expansion of the scholarly record creates practical space concerns, and the changing ways scholars work with collections impacts space needs across the library's multiple locations. Electronic access to collections, whether through the digitization of existing collections or the purchase of digital content, has become increasingly important, and libraries must determine

how to legally make digital surrogates of their collections available to their campus users as well as to scholars nationally and globally. In recent years, there have also been increasing calls to examine how historically marginalized voices are represented in our collections, and how those materials are described and made available. These trends make it clear that no library is an island, and institutions must rely on partnerships and networks, e.g. BorrowDirect, HathiTrust. Collections maintenance and preservation are also going to become increasingly collective work.

The Library Collections & Services Facility currently under construction will have capacity for 10-15 years of growth, and will enable active work to review the collection and rebalance the materials on campus versus off site or across library partnerships. The direction coming out of the strategic planning process will inform goal setting and decision making for the collection review.

7. <u>Open Education Resources and Textbook Affordability – Update from the Working Group</u>
Due to time, this agenda item was tabled. An update will be provided via email or at the next meeting.

8. <u>Open Scholarship: Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) Guidance and Changing Funder Mandates</u>
Due to time, this agenda item will be addressed at a future meeting.

9. <u>Any Other Business</u>
The Dartmouth College Library Workers Union has filed for union recognition. It was expected that more information would be available at the next meeting.

10. <u>Next Council on the Libraries Meeting: 23 May 2023</u>.