

Report of the Senate Library Committee, 2018-19
Submitted by Jeff Babb (Mathematics and Statistics), SLC Chair
26 April, 2019

Committee Members: Adina Balint (Humanities); Jeff Babb (Sciences); Kimberley Ducey (Social Sciences); Stefan Dodds (Member-at-Large); Rafael Otfinowski (Member-at-Large); Michael Hohner (Librarian); Brianne Selman (Librarian); Gabrielle Prefontaine (Dean of the Library); Catherine Taylor (Dean or Associate Dean); Jade DeFehr (UWSA Senator).

As per the Senate Standing Rules, the duties of the Senate Library Committee (SLC) are:

- to provide advice and make recommendations concerning Library policy to the Dean of Libraries
- for greater certainty, to recommend academic policy to the Dean of Libraries, including ways in which the budgetary resources available to the Libraries might be allocated most effectively from an academic perspective

The SLC met twice:

16 November 2018 Meeting

- G. Prefontaine reported on activities of the Library pertaining to
 - upgrading to the OCLC Worldshare Management System;
 - offering a Syllabus Service to Faculty; and
 - undergoing a Space Redevelopment Process
- J. Herter, with assistance from C. Hoepfner, gave a presentation on the SpringerLink Renewal. SpringerLink is one of the largest collections, but is extremely expensive. The Library was assessing content availability, usage and pricing alternatives while considering possible cancellation of the SpringerLink. Consultation with U of W Departments identified a need for further consultation; the liaison role of the Department Library representatives was considered to be very important.

28 January 2019 Meeting

- J. Babb was elected Committee Chair. He noted the very successful Classics Department event of 25 January on “The Lux Project: Digitizing the Hetherington Collection”, and suggested that the project is a fine example the Library helping a Department to preserve and make accessible important research. He also referred to the “Open Science” article *Time to break academic publishing’s stranglehold on research* as being relevant to considerations about SpringerLink. A link to the article is <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24032052-900-time-to-break-academic-publishings-stranglehold-on-research/>.
- G. Prefontaine provided an update on the SpringerLink Renewal strategy, noting that Faculty Councils were being consulted, so as to engage with Department Chairs. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to present the discussion to the UWSA Executives, as well as the University’s Senior Executive group.
- G. Prefontaine overviewed the Library Redevelopment Program, noting that priorities include Indigenous engagement, and more functional study and instruction spaces.

Thanks are expressed to Josh Herter and Christine Hoepfner for attending SLC meetings to present updates on acquisitions, subscriptions and collections management and to Paula Hossack for her strong administrative support to the SLC.