

## **Report of the Senate Library Committee (SLC) 2023-2024**

Submitted by Sam Popowich on behalf of Darlene Abreu-Ferreira, May 15, 2024

### **Committee Members:**

Darlene Abreu-Ferreira (Humanities); Satyendra Singh (Member-At-Large); Brianne Selman (Librarian elected from Librarians Council); Sam Popowich (Librarian elected from Librarians Council); Gabrielle Prefontaine (Dean of the Library); Marcella Siqueira Cassiano (Humanities); Srimathie Indraratne (Sciences); Anne-Laurence Caudano (Humanities); Donna Copey Haydey (Member-at-Large); Vacancy (UWSA Senator); Emma Hill-Kepron (Acting Dean, January-March 2024).

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 five times:**

#### On June 13, 2023

- G. Prefontaine gave key Library updates - library staffing and positions, work to support the University community with Open Access/Open Scholarship initiatives, initiative to clarify institutional Digital Asset Management existing tools, policies, and needs.
- Initiated review of Terms of Reference, to establish more clearly roles & responsibilities
- Discussed Library work and expertise in the area of AI literacy.
- Initiated planning for library representatives meeting(s), including preliminary goal setting.
- Darlene Abreu-Ferreira agreed to serve as interim Chair until the fall.

#### On October 3, 2023

- D. Abreu-Ferreira acclaimed as new chair.
- G. Prefontaine gave Library updates: ongoing work to adjust library renewal plan to address urgent short-term needs for student space and collaborative work areas, Library strategic planning and priority areas, collaboration with the Research Office on open access, policy structure & procedures, and budget update – databases continue to cost an increasing share of the library budget.
- Continued planning for library representatives meeting in the spring, as well as formalizing the role of the library representatives to ensure better onboarding and less knowledge silo'ing (division of information between autonomous units).

- Established a set SLC agenda structure, plan to have more frequent meetings.

#### On November 20, 2023

- Open Scholarship Working Group to be formed (under auspices of VPA), to examine current practices and needs around Open Scholarship.
- Library working on document defining the role of the library representatives and preparation of a "reps portal" for knowledge sharing.
- Consideration of formally bringing the library reps under the auspices of the SLC.

#### On February 6, 2024

- E. Hill-Kepron gave an update on library renovations (4CM to add additional offices and meeting room)
- B. Selman gave an update on the Open Scholarship Working Group. WG will be doing consultations in February and March for submission on Tri Agency Open Access Policy Review.
- Approved Terms of Reference
- Planning and agenda setting for spring library representatives' meeting, focusing on new portal, presentations from Librarians, and discussion of role of the library representatives document.

#### On April 4, 2024

- Debrief on the library representatives meeting held on March 11 (see below): good turnout, great networking opportunity for faculty members, engaged and enthused about ways the Library helps support information needs on campus. Discussed next full library representatives meeting in October 2024.

### **Library Representatives Meeting:**

A meeting of all library representatives was held on March 11, 2024. This was planned as the beginning of a twice-yearly set of meetings, with an onboarding session for representatives in the autumn and a debrief in the spring. Presentations were given by B. Selman on the role of Librarians and Library Reps, D. Bitz on her roles as Indigenous Engagement Librarian, and S. Popowich on the new Library Rep Portal. There was a very active Q&A session at the end on the various services the Library offers.

Thank you to Dean Gabrielle Prefontaine and the library staff for their guidance and advice. I would also like to thank Janice Reyes Bain for her administrative support to the SLC.