

ULC Meeting Minutes
February 13th, 2023 (on Teams)

Recorder: Nicholas Fedorchuk

Approved:

In Attendance: Zheni Wang, Elizabeth Wilkinson, Nicholas Fedorchuk, Hayley Battaglia, Amy Jansen, Jesse Gleason, Christopher Sheehy, Cindy Schofield, Lisa Bier, Carrie Michalski

Absent: Steven Brady, Amy Smoyer, Laurie Bonjo

I. Approval of Minutes

December 12th, 2022 meeting minutes were approved 9-0-2 abstentions

II. Update from the Interim Library Director (Ms. Lisa Bier)

- The acting library director updated the committee on the failed search for a new director. The search committee has reconvened and the position has been re-advertised with anticipated start date of July 1st. ULC committee members are planning to provide feedback on potential candidates that are invited to campus. A new education librarian has been hired and started in January.
- Recently, the library faculty have been working on outreach to the early college program. This includes the creation of a research guide for early college instructors and working with admissions on the owl for a day program.
- There has been an expansion of the makerspace and a new 3D printer has been purchased¹. The interim director has also been working with SPAR to write grants for graphic novels and streaming media, while the distance education librarian and system librarian also worked on writing a grant to enhance and improve additional equipment and service to the Buley Library Makerspace.
- Distance Education Librarian, Rebecca Hedreen, and Dr. Heidi Lockwood (Philosophy) recently presented on artificial intelligence².
- The library faculty are planning an event with the provost to celebrate SCSU authors on Friday, April 21st from 4:30-6:30 pm. Rebecca Hedreen and Diana Hellyar (STEM Librarian) have been working to create a database of SCSU authors on Zotero³. This database goes back to the 1940's and can be searched by department.

¹ <https://libguides.southernct.edu/makerspace>

² <https://inside.southernct.edu/online-learning/digitaltoolbox>

³ <https://fruehanp1.pythonanywhere.com/>

- Hayley Battaglia has been working with Amy Jansen, Elizabeth Wilkinson and set up the student advisory group BLUE⁴, which regularly gathers student input on library services to best meet the needs of the campus community.

III. Update from the Student Government Association Representative

Christopher Sheehy from the SGA was introduced to the committee and welcomed. Christopher updated the committee on the SGA efforts to acquire and use \$2500 from the Student Book Fund to purchase textbooks.

IV. Update from the ULC Chair – Information to Disseminate to Faculty (Dr. Zheni Wang)

- The committee chair highlighted the need to get the word out to faculty on the availability and efficiency of Interlibrary Loan and the fact that this system on getting peer-reviewed journal articles should be improved further as the Buley Library is integrated with the SUNY's digital library system.
- Faculty should reach out to subject librarians to discuss any e-books that can be acquired and made available to students.
- Committee members should communicate with their departments and other faculty members to see what database resources would be most helpful for teaching and research in their disciplines.
- The ULC members should also try to highlight the availability of the makerspace to work with classes and external parties. For example, the space could be used to host podcasts or create 3D models for product prototypes in an entrepreneurship class.
- Faculty members can also work with subject librarians to visit UG and Graduate classes for research instructions and remind students what library resources are available to them.

V. Discussions

Zheni suggested that Buley library takes on the creative role to enhance SCSU learners' online and on-campus information surfing experience, so that purposeful transformations can be initiated and experimented for institutional advancement. Lisa echoed and would like to explore and strengthen the collaboration between university and library faculty members for on-going strategic innovations across the Southern campus.

Per discussion with Cindy and Carrie, Zheni proposed that ULC could establish frequent communications (i.e., multiple times during each academic semester) with the provost and the office of academic affairs to actively progress and timely communicate ULC work charges.

⁴ <https://owlconnect.southernct.edu/organization/bluelibraryadvisoryboard>