

ULC Meeting Minutes
February 14th, 2022 (on WebEx)

Recorder: Nicholas Fedorchuk

Approved: 3/1/2022

In Attendance: Steven Brady, Amy Smoyer, Cindy Schofield, Patrick Crowley, Nicholas Fedorchuk, Hayley Battaglia, Melanie Savelli, Lisa Bier, Amy Jansen, Han Yu

I. Introductions

New members and the acting library director Lisa Bier were introduced to the committee and shown how to navigate the committee Blackboard page.

II. Continued Discussion of Library Space Allocation

The committee has continued a discussion from the previous semester regarding the allocation of space in the library. The committee resolved to draft a letter to the faculty senate president and the space committee chair regarding these issues by the next meeting. The following issues were discussed by the committee: (1) the overarching need for the space committee to re-engage with the library and help create a transparent and accountable process and map for resolving space issues. (2) The lack of student study space available on campus and in the library, particularly in light of the transition to more hybrid and online course modalities that require students to have a good internet connection and quiet space. Students on campus often have to switch quickly between modalities. (3) The administration reserving space and then not utilizing that space effectively while other library spaces remain unused, highlighting the need for a more effective way of coordinating space usage. (4) The fact that the library director has been put in the position of having to negotiate with departments about what spaces are available to them despite it being made clear that the director is not the building manager. Hayley Battaglia and Lisa Bier will work on an initial draft of the letter on Blackboard and then the rest of the committee will provide edits before the library committee's next meeting. The draft will then be discussed at the next meeting before being sent.

III. Update from the Acting Library Director

A library technician has retired and a search for a replacement has been approved but no date has been set yet. The library has almost finished the search for a library archivist, which will be a new position for the Buley Library. This position is expected to bring significant outreach opportunities for courses on campus. The New York Times is now available to faculty and students through the Buley Library. The process for how access

the New York Times website using a student or faculty ID can be found on the Buley Library website. The library also has access to the New York Times archive going back to 1851 as well as the complete collection of multimedia and video journalism. There is a new adjunct faculty member overseeing the library makerspace which hosts activities nearly every day on a variety of topics such as 3D printing, electronics, and virtual reality.