Southern Connecticut State University University Library Committee

### **ULC Meeting Minutes**

November 8th, 2021 (on WebEx)

Recorder: Nicholas Fedorchuk

Approved: 12/1/2021

In Attendance: Steven Brady, Amy Smoyer, Cindy Schofield, Patrick Crowley, Nicholas Fedorchuk, Carrie Michalski, Clara Ogbaa, Hayley Battaglia, Susan Clerc, Gabby Ferrell,

Melanie Savelli

#### I. <u>Minutes Approved</u>

We approved the minutes from the October 11th, 2021 meeting (Hayley Battaglia motioned to approve, Carrie Michalski seconded).

#### II. Open Educational Resources

The committee continued a discussion on the availability of open education resources (OER) at SCSU. The Connecticut Open Educational Resources Coordinating Council is now accepting grant proposals for faculty projects. Detailed information can be found on the OpenCSCU blog, which has links to the application. Other information on the OpenCSCU blog includes information on types of proposals and areas of study that qualify as "high impact" for OER. The application deadline for proposals is January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. Faculty interested in OER resources can direct questions to their subject librarian.

## III. <u>Library Space Allocation</u>

The committee continued a discussion from the previous meeting about library space allocation. The director updated the committee on some space changes in which library rooms, originally allocated for student study areas, are now being used as faculty offices. The director also spoke with the provost about current plans to move the Office of Diversity and Equity out of the library by next Summer, 2022 to the College of Health and Human Services.

The committee feels that the University Space Committee needs to review how library space is currently being used and believes that there is a need for greater transparency regarding how space will be utilized moving forward. The committee discussed the need for student study spaces, as there is a lack of space available for students to work on campus. Students need work spaces on campus to be able to quickly transition between different course modalities and meet in private with faculty. Additional ideas that were discussed included the possibility of a complete list of available study spaces for students on campus and the need for greater flexibility in scheduling study rooms. The committee

is planning to draft a memo to the faculty senate regarding these concerns and to address these points in the end of the semester report to the provost.

# IV. NECHE Accreditation

NECHE accreditation for the library is completed and went well. The only area of concern was that the library has too many print books relative to electronic resources.