Minutes of the Engineering & Science Library Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, November 27, 2017,
1:30 – 3:00 pm

Present: M. Coyne (Engineering & Science, Library), B. Cumming (Biology), K. Deluzio (Mechanical & Materials Engineering), A. Genikomsou (Civil Engineering), L. Gervais (recorder, Engineering & Science, Library), J. Giacomin (Chemical Engineering), S. Hesp (Chemistry), N. James (Geological Sciences), E. Kani (Mathematics & Statistics), S. McKinnon (Mining), H. McMullen (Associate University Librarian), L. Notash (Mechanical & Materials Engineering), W. Rau (Physics), A. Smithers (Collection Development and Assessment, Library), N. Soini (Information Services, Library), M. White (Engineering & Science, Library), M. Whitehead (Vice-Provost (Digital Planning) and University Librarian), W. Wu (Engineering & Science Library)
Regrets: J. Dingel (Computing), A. Hovorka (Environmental Studies), R. Martin (Physics), C. Matthews (Open Scholarship Services, Library), S. Morden (Discovery and Technology Services, Library), C. Saavadra (Electrical and Computer Engineering), N. Saleh (Engineering & Science Library), N. Scott (Geography and Planning)

1. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (approved by email): The minutes were approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes: M. Whitehead noted that R. Martin, Physics, is one of the faculty members developing an open and affordable textbook, for a first year Physics course, in response to a call for proposals from the Open and Affordable Course Materials Working Group.

4. Modifying Acquisitions Practices: H. McMullen explained the factors that are causing research libraries to seek more open and affordable publishing models, including the large publishers realizing close to a 40% profit margin. Queen's University Library was one of several Canadian universities to participate in a journal usage project last year. Results of the researcher survey, which aimed to determine the most highly valued journals in different fields at Queen's, and journal usage data is in the analysis stage. The results will be shared with faculty. This is a complex problem that involves determining reasonable cost versus excessive cost. Current data indicates that not all journals in our packages are being used. In some instances, the price per article download is enormous and this cannot be sustained. While selectively purchasing individual titles may not be cost efficient in all cases, libraries are working together to achieve better pricing for this more selective approach. In addition to negotiating with existing publishers, the library is investigating alternative scholarly communications models such as institutional and subject repositories with overlay services such as peer review, where there are costs but they are not as excessive as some current subscription costs.

5. Examples of download statistics in Engineering and Science: M. White presented download statistics of physics journals and preprints at Queen's covering the period 2012-2016. He identified trends in usage, and noted that times of unusually high usage may indicate excessive downloads by single users.

6. Comprehensive Information Resources Vision (CIRV): M. Whitehead presented an overview of the project and committee members were provided with a copy of the CIRV Interview Guide. The project fits in the context with Queen's digital planning, which seeks to optimize digital opportunities for the benefit of teaching, learning and research. It also connects with how the dissemination of research results, for the highest possible impact, is supported at the university. A discussion paper on the latter

topic will be distributed in the coming months. With respect to Interview Question 1, one member remarked she had not seen much change in the scholarly information landscape since she arrived at Queen's in 1997. Another remarked on new opportunities such as video content. It was noted that the inclusion of too many links distracts from the article itself. N. Soini described the specialized software available in the Adaptive Technology Centre, http://queensu.ca/atc/adaptive-technology-lab . With respect to Interview Question 2,

- Strengths include: collaboration, consortia, QSpace and institutional repositories, Google Scholar gives preference to QSpace in its results, librarian and staff expertise, unique collections, a deep integration with faculty, access to electronic resources;
- Weaknesses include: as we move into the digital age, it is a challenge to continue to assess and reassess how we spend our money, digital rights management challenges, ethical issues with pirate sites, older paradigms exist with the book publishers, and for some the problem of the inability to view electronic material due to lack of appropriate technology;
- Opportunities include: technology provides new ways of doing things and a faster way of distributing scholarly work;
- Threats include: restrictions on e-books borrowing outside the institution.

There was a question regarding the survey conducted about research data management needs.
ACTION: A link to the Research Data Management Survey report will be distributed to members

Adjournment: 2:46 pm