Library Advisory Committee for Law – March 5, 2018

Present: Nick Bala, Amy Kaufman, Heather McMullen, Cherie Metcalf, Sandra Morden, Anne Smithers, Nathalie Soini, Leslie Taylor
Regrets: Martha Whitehead, Alexander Gorlewski

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Follow up to Minutes of November 1, 2017 Meeting** (previously approved by email)
   Re legal database training: the discussion from the November 1st meeting will inform, and feeds into, September planning for instruction.

3. **Law Library Renovations update**
   Feedback on the proposals for the renovations of the second level study area of the Law Library was solicited through email and interviews with patrons entering the library and with students working in the study area. Survey highlights and contributions from the committee included:
     >Elimination of soft seating.
     >Re 54 vs 70 carrels: concern was expressed about the loss of study space, and with respect to carrel size (36" vs 42"), students *do* require sufficient space to accommodate laptops, casebooks, notebooks.
     >Re lighting: better light and more natural light is desirable.
     >Provide individual power outlets at each carrel, i.e. each carrel should be wired.
     >Re dividers between carrels: opinion was split between high and low partitions (about one-third for lower dividers and two-thirds preferring higher dividers).
     >No large study tables.
     >The current wooden chairs are uncomfortable, and the chairs with armrests do not fit under the tables. The committee suggested a mix of styles; however, it was strongly recommended that money be spent on comfortable seating because of the long hours that students spend at work in the carrels.
     >The second level washroom was identified as a priority to be addressed in the next phase of library renovations.
     >Refer to LAMP as a guide in space decisions: priority is to increase library seating

   There was a suggestion that a mix of features be introduced as a trial to see which components attract the most use or practical approval.

4. **Law Library Spring Exam Hours**
   Exam hours in the Law Library, i.e. midnight closing, will begin one week earlier this term, as requested by students. The start date will be March 26th. This change will be posted where students will notice it. The committee was reminded that Stauffer Library hours currently run to 2:00 am, and will be further extended to 24/7 during the spring exam period.

5. **Library's Action Plan to Support Anti-Racism, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Cultures**
   Ideas for the further development of inclusive, accessible spaces in support of the Library's Action Plan will be discussed at the upcoming project meeting, and N. Soini will follow up with students by email.

6. **Collaborative Futures at Queen's update**
   After months of intensive work, the Collaborative Futures team is approaching the selection stage, and once a decision has been made this information will be shared with the Queen's community. A timeframe for completion is underway and the expectation is that the new Library Services Platform will be shared by 13 Ontario Universities. (LSP). The new platform will mean the replacement of our Summon and QCAT tools for discovering and accessing information resources with a single tool for searching across Queen's and other OCUL partner library collections. For more information, please see the library website.

7. **Modifying Acquisitions Project and Journal Usage Project update**
   H. McMullen provided an update on the project, which will further engage our users as we implement our information resources strategies. This builds upon the series of consultations carried out over the past two years looking at the challenges of current publishing models. In particular, we are asking the Queen's community to review the Queen's results of the national Journal Usage Project conducted at 28 Canadian Universities, and provide any additional input via our website. Librarians have been reviewing these results as well and their feedback will be incorporated with users' input to identify high-value journals at Queen's. This list will inform our modified acquisitions practices and negotiations with vendors. Law faculty identified HeinOnline, LegalTrac, Westlaw, and Quicklaw as critical databases for their students. The library will continue to provide access to the materials required by Queen's researchers in as timely a manner as possible. In the future this may be achieved in part through enhanced interlibrary loan/document delivery service; reprint services, some of which promise a 10-minute turnaround time; just-in-time collection; working with partners such as the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CKRN) and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), and the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL).

   A point of discussion was the concern expressed by the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities with respect to the balance of public and private funding of research publication. The full statement of the U15 on sustainable publishing is available online.

8. **Comprehensive Information Resources Vision (CIRV) Project update**
   L. Taylor drew the Committee's attention to the draft principles of the CIRV project.
   CIRV members have continued consultations with stakeholders and library staff, especially seeking feedback on the 'Information Resources Vision'. View this document in the appendix beginning on page 4.

   It was pointed out that sustainable publishing is an access to justice issue, considering the extent

to which members of the public seek legal information at the Law Library. Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO) and their Steps to Justice site was mentioned as a useful open access tool available to the public – and students find it helpful, as well.

9. **Other Business**
   The Door – The main entrance to the library was identified as a priority as the doors are heavy and there was a discussion of if power assist should be in effect at all times.

Appendix: Information Resources Vision

Queen's University Library provides leadership in the development of a global knowledge commons that enables high impact research and scholarship, reflecting our values of diversity, inclusive and open access to information.

Principles

Queen's University Library's priorities and objectives relating to information resources[i] are informed by a continual process of consultative, evidence-based and transparent practices based on the following principles:

1. Collaboration
We collaborate locally, provincially, nationally and internationally, in ways that strengthen our collective capacity to meet researchers needs now and in the future.

2. Access
We select and provide access to information resources to support the diverse research, teaching and learning needs of the Queen's community.

3. Curation and Preservation
Our selection and retention decisions aim to ensure access to information for current and future researchers and are guided by the university's priorities, collaborative opportunities and our current and historic strengths.

4. Fairness
We champion fair, open and sustainable publishing models and advance strategies that enable timely access to information resources at reasonable costs.

5. Creation
We support emerging forms of scholarship and innovative uses of information resources.

6. Dissemination
We are engaged in the development of the global information commons, providing platforms, services and opportunities to support the management and dissemination of student and faculty scholarly outputs to the widest possible audience at the earliest possible opportunity.

7. Cultural heritage[ii]
We support the publishing and acquisition of local, regional and national information resources that reflect the diversity of Canadian cultural traditions and support Queen's priorities.

8. Promotion and Use
We promote awareness of information resources and the scholarly outputs of the university, and help our users to find, use and evaluate information and navigate the scholarly communications landscape.

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[i] "Information resources" refers to content produced or used in research and scholarship, in any format.

This includes publications, data, creative works, networked scholarship, archival documents, etc.

ii The Content Strategy of the National Heritage Digitization Strategy (draft in progress) provides help context and vision:

Canada is a multinational country, defined by diversity as much as by common values. This diversity ranges from the language, culture, and self-governance traditions of Canada's First Nations to the language, cultural, legal, and other traditions of the French and English, as well as successive waves of immigrants and refugees who have added their mother tongues, customs, and perspectives to Canada. As a result, the 'content' of the national heritage digitization strategy is diverse and constantly evolving through dialogue among the rich, and sometimes competing, narratives of memory, as well as through the recovery of knowledge that has sometimes languished in the margins.

Moreover, in today's globalized digital world, there is an ongoing challenge to maintain a pan-Canadian cultural space and presence, given the economies of scale and speed available to larger non-Canadian players.

As such, improving discovery to ensure all Canadians have ready access to all the Canadian knowledge and culture repositories, through metadata enhancement as well as a unified, national platform, will be as important as digitizing as much, wide-ranging and relevant content, as possible.