

Minutes

Faculty of Arts and Science Library Advisory Committee (Humanities and Social Sciences)

Wednesday, April 4th, 2018, 3 – 4:30 p.m., Stauffer Library, Rm 121

Present: Constance Adamson, Sylvia Andrychuk, Francine Berish, Elijah Bisung, Laura Cameron, Amitava Chowdhury, Barbara Crow, Jackie Druery (Chair), Elizabeth Gibson, Jacoba Lilius, Isabel Luce, Stephanie Lind, Courtney Matthews, Heather McMullen, Nathalie Soini, Matthew Reeve, Jane Reeves (Recorder), Lucinda Walls

Regrets: Gillian Akenson, Sylvat Aziz, Maria Bridgemohan, Michele Chittenden, Catherine Conaghan, Sandra Morden, Natalie Rewa

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Both the current meeting agenda and the minutes of the November 14th, 2017 meeting were approved.

Journal Usage/Modifying Journal Acquisitions Project Update

This project began over one year ago. The library expressed appreciation for faculty and graduate students' submission of surveys listing their top ten journal titles for teaching and research. The data is now being analysed and the results will be shared via a website. The library invites feedback on the analysis until the end of June. There will be a web form available on the website for submitting comments. (Subsequent to the meeting, the [journal list](#) is now available for comment.)

The library is investigating ways that may be more cost-effective in providing articles from some journals given the rising costs of journal subscriptions. A pilot project is being planned for fall 2018 to look at alternative ways of providing journal articles when we may not subscribe to the journal itself.

Discussion

Concerns were expressed about the wait time for articles through any new document delivery system. The library realizes that turnaround time must be short. It is anticipated that any system under consideration will be faster than our current interlibrary loan system.

Comprehensive Information Resources Vision (CIRV)

First discussed at our November 14th meeting, the CIRV is now finalized. Copies of the document were provided at the current meeting. The document presents general principles for developing, building and managing the library's collections.

The liaison librarians in the humanities and social sciences will now be revising the collection development policies in order to ensure that they are aligned with the CIRV principles and the teaching and research needs of the departments. The library will seek input from departmental library representatives in this process.

Discussion

A question was asked whether there might be a return to approval plans for monographs. The Chair explained that we could consider some limited plans but that they would have to be very tightly controlled and monitored as in the past we found that too many books were being added to the collection that we would not have purchased had we been engaging in title-by-title selection.

Collaborative Futures

The library has been working on this initiative since 2015 beginning with a feasibility study. Queen's is entering into a partnership with 12 other member libraries of OCUL (Ontario Council of University Libraries) to purchase and implement a shared library services platform (LSP). The libraries in the partnership are (with potential to add others in future):

- Algoma University
- Brock University
- Carleton University
- University of Guelph
- Lakehead University
- UOIT
- University of Ottawa
- Queen's University
- Trent University
- University of Waterloo
- Western University
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- York University

This effects not just searching, discovery and access to library materials but also the back-end operations of acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation and the management of our electronic resources.

QCAT and Summon will be replaced by a single new discovery tool, which will allow users to discover the information resources of the thirteen partner-libraries.

It is expected that the implementation will take approximately one year (mid 2019), and the academic year calendar will be taken into account and we will work to make the transition as easy as possible. The process of choosing a system is underway but we are not yet able to announce the selected system.

This is a very complex process involving the coordination of the thirteen libraries. Collaborative management reduces duplication of work between libraries and the cost of licensing and expertise. Savings realized through collaboration will improve and enhance services for library users.

Key benefits to making this change include that we will have a current and forward-looking LSP entirely web-based; the partnership will allow us to reduce duplication of effort in sharing the work that the libraries are all doing individually now; potential cost savings in sharing licensing and staff expertise; new discovery interface for our own collections and those of our partners; increased ease of access to partner collections (intent to go to direct request rather than ILL); and, there is longer term potential for sharing collection development and management.

Discussion

Concern was raised about the retirement of QCAT when the new discovery tool is introduced. It was explained that we have had QCAT since 2001 and that it has become outdated given the proliferation of electronic resources. It is due for replacement and even if we did not enter the partnership, we would have to purchase a new system individually but this would not afford us the benefits of the collaboration. A discovery tool offers much greater flexibility in searching and the ability to search across a broader set of information resources than does a system like QCAT. We understand that this will be a significant transition and change.

The question was raised whether QCAT would continue to be available. It will not be available after the new system goes live. It will continue to be available up until that point but there will a short period in which it will not be updated.

Concerns were also expressed about the implementation of the shared service platform during a busy academic period. We are planning to implement the system and the go-live date at a time of the academic year when it will be least disruptive and when there will be time to update syllabi and other learning material before the start of the next term. For QU that would be May – July but this may not be the case for all universities in the partnership since some have a regular summer semester.

It was questioned as to whether all electronic resources – databases, ejournals, ebooks – would be available to users in all thirteen libraries. The Chair explained that only those resources licensed by an individual library would be available to users in that library.

A question was asked about the cost savings that will be realized. We do not yet have those figures and some cost savings may not be immediate but may be realized over a longer period as collaborative workflows are introduced.

Other business

The Graduate Student Reading Room renovation and extension on the third floor of Stauffer Library will be finished by September 2018. At our November meeting, a question was raised about whether alternative graduate student study space would be designated while the renovation is underway. The Chair clarified that while the existing room is unavailable there will be fewer undergraduates on campus and this will free up adequate student study space to accommodate graduate students who would normally use the graduate student reading room.

Data Day, promoting data awareness, will be held in the 1966 Reading Room, Douglas Library, on Wednesday, May 2, 2018. This event features presentations by data researchers highlighting their work and initiatives in their fields. Copies of the programme were made available at the meeting and are available on the [library website](#). The following day, Thursday, May 3, Queen's University's first Research Development Day, sponsored and organized by University Research Services and the Office of Partnerships & Innovation, will be held in Douglas Library, 1966 Reading Room.

The launching of **Books@Queen's** will be held April 16th from 4:00 to 5:00 in Speaker's Corner, Stauffer Library. Please join us for the launch of this new podcast series which features members of the Queen's community talking about a piece of writing, critical data, or any other intellectual output available through Queen's University Library that has influenced or inspired them in some way – in relation to

their field, current research projects, or personal interests. This series was envisioned by Professor Natalie Rewa, in her role as Chair of the Senate Library Committee, and brought to life by students in Matt Rogalsky's course MUSC156, "Introduction to Digital Audio Recording Editing and Mixing," in collaboration with CFRC.

It has come to the attention of the library that graduate students are not always aware that the library will purchase information resources for their research when needed materials are lacking in our collections. Decisions will be made based on available financial resources and on whether resources are compatible with the collection policies of the library in a particular discipline. All materials purchased will be processed for the library collection but in most cases can be borrowed by graduate students on term loan. Graduate students should consult with the liaison librarian for their department regarding purchase options. Interlibrary loan also continues to be an option for materials not available at Queen's.

The [Advisory Committee website](#) is now available. Terms of reference, membership lists and minutes of the meeting are posted at the site.

The Chair thanked all for their attendance, questions and comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm. Next meeting will be held in fall 2018.