

Library Advisory Committee for Law – March 4, 2020

Present: Evis Aimehmeti (Graduate Student Representative), Meghan Goodchild (QUL, Acting Head, Discovery and Technology Services), Professor Nicolas Lamp, Ian Robson (QUL, Information Resources), Leslie Taylor (Head Law Librarian (Acting), Lederman Law Library), Michael Vandenburg (Interim Vice-Provost (Digital Planning) and University Librarian), Professor Robert Yalden

Regrets: Adam Godlewski (JD Student Representative), Courtney Matthews (QUL, Head Open Scholarship Services)

- 1. Welcome and Update** (L. Taylor) Amy Kaufman is currently on leave for 8 months, returning as Head Law Librarian at the end of August. Leslie Taylor is serving as Head Law Librarian (Acting) during Amy's absence.

Erica Friesen has been hired, effective March 30, 2020, as the Research and Instruction Librarian (Law) and Online Learning Specialist on a two-year appointment. Eric holds a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Toronto, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and German Studies from McGill University. Since graduating from the U of T, Erica has been the research services librarian at Goodmans LLP law firm, where she has developed and delivered information literacy sessions for post-secondary students and provided legal research support. On the research and instruction side of her position, Erica will be providing legal research support and instruction in legal information literacy. She will also aid in the development of online courses and learning objects.

Leslie invited feedback from the Faculty of Law, faculty and students, about the services that Lederman Library offers. This reopened a discussion that began in the November Committee meeting concerning access, especially, to current business resources. In business law, access to current information is vital, and daily publications such as *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *New York Times*, *Globe and Mail*, and *National Post* are often the best sources. It was noted that the School of Business has cancelled their subscription of *Wall Street Journal*. PressReader and the *Globe and Mail* direct subscription have some value, but the need is seen as greater than what the Library currently is able to satisfy.

Action: Leslie will meet with Professor Yalden to discuss the needs that he has identified. Ian Robson, in his capacity as Head of Information Resources, is also available to consult.

It was noted that the Faculty of Law is embarking upon a Strategic Planning process spanning the next 5 years, and this would be an opportune time for the Library to consider how it can best serve the needs of faculty. Furthermore, it would also be an opportunity for the Library to consider where it is going in the next 5 years and assess

the changing needs of faculty and students. One current example of how the Library is integrating with the Faculty of Law is reflected in the new position in which online instruction is a significant component of Erica Friesen's mandate. R. Yalden remarked that research skills are now so different and they are changing, and the library has an important role in fostering the required competencies. Artificial Intelligences and other technological innovations were cited as examples.

E. Alimehmeti, in her role as Graduate Student Representative, voiced her agreement with the comments about change in the library, having the perspective of a student returning to the university after an 18 year absence: the use of library space has changed as have the amenities. For example, she cited what she sees as a need for more desktop computers, dedicated office space for PHD and LLM students, and easier access to resources, especially for students coming from abroad. In general, the visibility of grad community through dedicated spaces could be improved.

Action: Leslie welcomes this feedback and would like to meet with Evis to discuss her concerns. M. Vandenburg added that the School of Graduate Studies and the Society of Graduate and Professional Students conducts interdisciplinary consultations with the Library. Re space, we need to let students know how to access the Helen Howard Graduate Students Reading Room (<https://library.queensu.ca/about-us/news-events/helen-howard-graduate-students-reading-room>) and other library spaces. In consultation with SGPS, pilot projects over the summer are planned which will seek to provide more dedicated time to graduate students for writing and working together. The Library recognizes that Law students and Graduate students have very particular needs. Re access to books: Proper citation of a text requires pagination; however, unless downloading or printing of an eBook is permitted, pagination is not necessarily provided in the display. **Question:** Can the Library assure that purchased eBooks permit downloading and/or printing? **Answer:** This will depend upon the publisher and what we are able to negotiate with them. Commonly, digital rights management (DRM) limits printing and/or downloads to 10% to 20% of a given text.

2. **Feedback re Omni** Omni, the Library's new search tool went 'live' on December 10th. Faculty were advised in advance about the need to change QCAT links in their online teaching materials to the links in the Omni item records, and instruction was available to users. The consensus among committee members is that the transition to Omni as a search tool is "so far so good"
3. **QUL External Review** (M. Vandenburg) As Queen's University has undergone significant changes in senior management with the appointment of Principal Patrick Deane and Provost Mark Green, and the departure of Martha Whitehead to Harvard, this was seen as an opportune time for the Library to conduct an external review. In the words of Interim Provost Tom Harris, the purpose of the review was "to provide an assessment of

and opportunities for the library to inform the appointment of the next Vice-Provost and University Librarian". The Library undertook a self-study and hosted reviewers from McMaster and University of Victoria in October/November 2019. Focus groups and interviews with Library staff were part of the process. The report was submitted to the Provost in December, and following a review for accuracy by the Office of the Vice-Provost and University Librarian a summary was made public

(<https://www.queensu.ca/provost/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.provwww/files/files/Summary%20of%20Library%20Review%20Report.pdf>). The Library is currently preparing a response to the report. Strengths to focus on included the commitment to digital scholarship and Indigenization, while challenges included communication, pace of change, climate, and staff engagement. Discussions have involved individual units and leadership groups. During the transition period, that is, the period leading to the appointment of a new University Librarian, the objective is to identify a set of guiding values, and focus on what is most important without impeding what the new University Librarian will be able to do.

4. **Springer Pilot** I. Robson provided a review of the library's Springer pilot project, a part of its Modifying Acquisition Practices work. As previously reported, Queen's University, along with 27 other academic libraries from across Canada, participated in the Journal Usage Project (JUP) which was led by our national consortium, CRKN. The purpose of JUP was to assess whether the titles contained in the 'Big Deal' journal packages (e.g. Elsevier, Springer, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, and Sage) are of high-value or not to subscribing universities. Using three criteria to determine 'high-value' – usage, citations, and faculty/researcher feedback – the findings indicated that approximately 16%-17% of the titles in these large journal bundles were of 'high-value' to Queen's users. As a result of these findings, the library initiated a pilot project that would seek to test alternative acquisitions models for Springer articles published after 2018 (the library has perpetual access to pre-2019 Springer content). The three models of access for post 2018 articles would be direct subscription and an article desktop delivery service called Reprints Desk for 'high-value' titles, while the articles from non high-value titles would be served via inter library loan. The library continues to negotiate with Springer for a new license that contains the same access rights as we would have had with the national license. I. Robson emphasized that this is a limited pilot, affecting a small subset of the vast amount of content that the library provides access to. He also reinforced that the library is committed to getting users what they need to support their teaching, learning, and research – whether via subscription, Reprints Desk, or inter library loan.

5. **OSS Information Series and Call for Proposals: Open Textbooks** C. Matthews announced the final sessions in the Open Scholarship Information Series (<https://library.queensu.ca/about-us/news-Oevents/open-scholarship-services-information-series-0>) which will now be provided virtually through Microsoft Teams. The March session is *'An Introduction to Data, Government Information, and Maps and GIS*. The April 8 session will be an *'Introduction to Research Data Management and Scholarly Publishing'*. Register on the Series website.
- Discussion followed regarding the current awareness of OSS services, particularly Scholarly Publishing in the Queen's Research Repository, QSpace, and to determine if QSpace is on the faculty radar. The advantage of publishing in an institutional repository was questioned. There *have* been informal conversations about publishing in SSRN, especially among younger colleagues, and considerations of the risks of publication and strategic issues of publishing in SSRN.
- Action:** It was suggested that it might be useful for C. Matthews to make a presentation at Faculty Board about OSS and scholarly publishing. Interest was expressed in exploring the strategic options for research promotion and how publication relates to renewal, tenure, and promotion. M. Vandenburg asserted that the Library is very open to having these conversations, a real dialogue with faculty regarding their research challenges.