



University Library Advisory Council (ULAC)

Friday April 1, 2016

Chair: Dr. J. McDermid

Present: J. McDermid (chair), J. Brodeur, R. Cossa, J. Fink, R. Howland, S. Huque, W. Kahl, N. Kevlahan, D. Kidney, V. Lewis, J. McKinnell, P. Mui, S. Nestico,-Semianiw, O. Perkovic, S. W. Wyckoff

Regrets: J. Benn, J. Heisz, A. MacTavish

Guests: Z. Batist, S. Bannerman, S. O'Byrne

1. Welcome (J. McDermid)

2. **Minutes:** The group reviewed and approved the minutes from the February 29/16 meeting (S. Huque / Kevlahan)

3. Updates from the University Librarian (V. Lewis)

a. **Budget:** V. Lewis presented the University Library's budget to the University Budget Committee the previous week. The submission appeared to be well received.
Highlights:

- The dramatic decline of the Canadian dollar in 2015/16 resulted in a \$600K loss of purchasing power in the Library's information resources budget.
- Journal inflation cost us a further \$300K in 2015/16.
- The Library is still projecting to finish 2015/16 with a small surplus (thanks to salary savings and successful currency mitigation strategies).
- We anticipate using our carryforward to get us through 2016/17.
- Unless we receive additional funding, our reserves will be fully depleted in 2017/18.

b. **Master Space Plan:** The Library posted copies of key visuals from the master space plan in the lobbies of Mills and Thode. Hundreds of students participated in a sticky-note survey to ascertain reaction to the proposals. Students were generally supportive of the proposals for Mills. Students wanted less enclosed group study rooms at Thode.

4. Open Access:

a. Open Access Tool (O. Perkovic)

O. Perkovic demonstrated use of the interactive online tool created by the University Library and Health Sciences Library to help McMaster researchers navigate their options regarding compliance with the TriAgency OA policy. The tool is available at: <https://library.mcmaster.ca/scholarly-communication/open-access>. Some other universities are using a version of the McMaster tool.

O. Perkovic then demonstrated the process for uploading an article into MacSphere, the University's institutional repository. MacSphere is available at: <https://macsphere.mcmaster.ca/>

Question: Is there a space to add the DOI? **Answer:** Yes.

Question: How long does it take to upload an article? **Answer:** 1 minute.

Question: Can we see how many other researchers have downloaded our work?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can we add an ORCID ID? **Answer:** Olga will check.

N. Kevlahan recommended Olga look at Dissemin, an open source system for tracking Open Access policies.

N. Kevlahan expressed his desire for universities to rethink Journal Impact Factor (using the number of citations to a journal – calculated by *Web of Science* – a Thomson Reuters commercial product). JIF discriminates against disciplines that aren't well covered in the *Web of Science* and is easily gamed by researchers and journals. The Academy needs alternative metrics (focused on the article rather than the journal) to more accurately reflect the impact of an author's work.

One member noted that he had had difficulty getting into MacSphere last year. Members encouraged Olga to embed a link to the repository inside the OA tool.

One member noted frustration with the variety of open access funding policies. Wishes that the provincial funding agencies would harmonize their policies with the federal agencies.

b. OpenCon Conference (Z. Batist)

Graduate student Z. Batist reported on his positive experience attending the OpenCon Conference in Brussels (funded by the University Library's graduate student travel scholarship). The conference provides an extraordinary opportunity for graduate students and early career researchers to enhance their understanding of open access, open data and open educational resources.

5. Research data (J. Brodner)

J. Brodner introduced the members to the research data management program supported by the University Library for McMaster researchers. For information, please see: <https://library.mcmaster.ca/rdm>.

He noted that the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is moving ahead more aggressively than the other two federal agencies in terms of RDM policies. SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR are working on a policy but it isn't clear at this point whether the agencies will mandate compliance or simply encourage it.

J. Brodeur demonstrated the DMP Assistant, the bilingual tool designed to help researchers create a data management plan. The DMP Assistant is available at:

<https://assistant.portagenetwork.ca/>

He discussed the use of Dataverse as an open source data repository. For information on Dataverse, please see: <https://library.mcmaster.ca/rdm/preserving/archiving>.

6. Other Business

a. **Websites:** Does the Health Sciences Library maintain its own website? Yes, the site is available at: <http://hsl.mcmaster.ca/>

b. **Copyright (S. O'Byrne):** S. O'Byrne is the University's Copyright Counsel. She is striving to improve awareness of copyright issues on campus. She is happy to assist with workshops and presentations. For more information about copyright at McMaster please see: <http://www.copyright.mcmaster.ca/>.

7. Adjournment – 10:35 AM