Sent for Senate Approval: 1/21/2025

Senate Approved: Click or tap to enter a date.

Official Minutes
Senate Library Committee Meeting
01/14/2025

Call To Order and Approval of Minutes

Call to Order: SLC Chair Eva Gil called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Reports and Announcements

Eva Gil, *SLC Chair*, reported:

- She and Madeline Kelly gave a brief presentation on the Faculty Survey and Recommendations Report to the Faculty Senate at its January 13 meeting.

Discussion Items

Update on Library Subscription Review Process: Madeline Kelly, Interim Dean of Libraries, provided information on the subscription review process.

For several years, the Libraries has used carryforward funds to postpone the need for subscription cancellations but there are now projected subscriptions deficits in FY2026 and beyond. This year, the Libraries need to identify $29,000 in journals, databases, and other subscriptions to cancel.

The Libraries' plan is to launch a university-wide communications campaign in January that includes both passive and active messaging. Passive communication will include information posted to the Libraries' website, a Library News story, an announcement in Western Today, and direct emails to governance groups and faculty chairs. Active communication will include outreach by Subject Teams, visits and presentations to governance groups and department meetings, some kind of online forum or presentation, and an evolving FAQ.

She reported that the Libraries will be doing a live and recorded University Forum in mid-February prior to the release of the list and feedback process. This will be promoted the last week of January.

She asked SLC members if it would make sense for Subject Teams to proactively reach out to departments, citing workload concerns, or if there might be a more aggregate way to reach out through colleges. In response, committee members discussed various communications strategies, including through faculty governance and emails to deans, department chairs, and faculty governance.

There was a question about how decisions about cuts are made. The Interim Dean reported that factors include cost, use, overlap with other services, leasing vs. ownership, and qualitative input from stakeholders. Requests for new journals are allowed but there would need to be a cut to offset the cost.

Communications and Outreach Strategies for SLC Representatives and Colleges: The Committee also discussed communications strategies for other issues. As part of the discussion, it was decided that the SLC Survey and Recommendation Report will be highlighted on the Faculty Senate homepage and on the SLC page on the Senate website.

SLC Priorities and Workplan for Winter/Spring Quarters: The following topics were identified for the Winter/Spring Quarters:

- Separate presentations on Libraries budget process, Special Collections and Archives, Collections, and Teaching and Learning.
- WELS data review and discussion of library-specific questions (and other methods/survey instruments for student feedback)
- Reflection on subscription review process and discussion of changes for AY 2025-26

Items from the Floor

There were no items from the floor.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

SLC Attendance
01/14/2025

Voting Members		
Vacant	Libraries	N/A
Kendra Dupuy	CHSS	x
Tilmann Glimm	CSE	x
Hilary Schwandt	Fairhaven	x
Shuo Li	CBE	x
Patrick Buckley	CENV	x
Emmy Fincham	WCE	x
Eva Gil (Chair)	CFPA	x
Vacant	Faculty Senate	--
Emma Fredlund	AS Senate	x

Non-Voting Members		
Madeline Kelly	Interim Libraries Dean	x
John Farquhar	ATUS Director	--
(Madeline Kelly)	Director, Collections	N/A
Shevell Thibou	Director, Teaching & Learning	x
Elizabeth Joffrion	Director, Archives & Special Collections	--
Recorder		
Becky Johnston	Faculty Senate	x
Guests		

Voting Attendees	8
Non-Voting Attendees	3
Total Attendees	11