

## Library Committee

### 2017-18 Annual Report

The Faculty Senate Library Committee convened four times in 2017-18. The first meeting was held in, and included a tour of, The Valley Library following the recommendation of the [2016-2017 Faculty Senate Library Committee](#); the remaining three meetings were held in 109 Gilkey Hall. The standing mandate of the Library Committee is related to maintaining open lines of communication between OSU Libraries (OSUL) and the faculty, students, and staff. This year the Library Committee was given the additional task to evaluate the functioning of the committee and provide any recommendations on the Committee's mandate to the Faculty Senate. The report, which was submitted to the Faculty Senate president Jon Dorbolo, is provided as an [addendum](#) to this Annual Report. The evaluation process was the primary focus of the 2017-18 Committee; it was compiled through a combination of the committee meetings, email exchanges, and cloud-based collaborative writing. Apart from this effort, the Committee maintained a holding pattern in regard to its primary mandate through open conversations with OSUL staff on topics related to the OSUL policies, budget, and the OSUL strategic planning process. A member of the Library Committee also served on the selection committee for the Library's Undergraduate Research Awards, and the Committee continued to pursue reinstatement of the Library Research Travel Grant program (refer to the [2016-2017 Annual Report](#) for details).

The following set of recommendations for the 2018-2019 Library Committee builds on those established in 2016-2017:

- 1) Recruit student members early in the Fall term.
- 2) Systematize the scheduling of meetings.
- 3) Conduct a tour of The Valley Library for Library Committee members in the Fall.
- 4) Consider organizing a colloquium or public seminar on topics relevant to OSUL, as per the recommendation given in the Library Committee self-study (see [addendum](#) to this Annual Report).

### 2017-18 Membership

Emily Shroyer '18, Chair	College of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences
Richmond Barbour '18	School of Writing, Literature & Film
Emily Shroyer '18	College of Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences
Enrique Thomann '18	Mathematics
Dianna Fisher '19	Extended Campus
Justin St. Germain '19	School of Writing, Literature & Film
Melissa Santala '19	Mechanical, Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering
Tim Alcon '20	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Mary Beauthin '20	Crop and Soil Science
Sean Yang '20	College of Business
Colleen Boardman, graduate student,	School of Writing, Literature and Film
Faye Chadwell – Ex-Officio	OSU Libraries
JoAnne Bunnage – Executive	Committee Liaison

*Report prepared by Emily Shroyer*

*(Below is the relevant portion of the addendum to the Annual Report)*

## **Moving Forward**

Members of the Library Committee discussed critically the need for the continuation of this committee as part of the governance of OSU. We conclude that, while the involvement of the committee varied over the years, its existence is justified as it provides the Library and the Faculty at OSU with a fluid communication venue, as well as a sounding board for ideas. The Valley Library at OSU continues to change in the ways it provides services to faculty, students and the citizens of Oregon in an always challenging funding environment and adapting to new technological methods for publication and education. The Committee continues to serve as the most direct nexus between the Administration of OSUL with the most representative government body of the faculty, its Faculty Senate. A survey reaffirms the value of the Library Committee as 12 out of 17 of our peer institutions have similar committees in existence.

The Library Committee also discussed the value in refining the functioning of the Committee in a few key ways:

1. Instituting a standard set of topics that will regularly be addressed by the Committee, in particular, identifying budget concerns and providing a sounding board for collection management decisions;
2. Formalizing a communication pathway between the Committee with other faculty, e.g., routing feedback given to the Library by outside faculty through the Committee; and
3. Establishing goals for the next academic year, at the end of the current academic year, as a way to strengthen its visibility and serve better the constituents of the Library Committee.

In order to address the above points, we propose that the 2018/19 Faculty Senate Library Committee work with OSUL to organize a public seminar (given by a high profile speaker(s)) that addresses the ever-increasing costs of professional journals. If successful, this event could be a recurring effort led by the Committee with topics that alternate on a yearly basis. For example, another potential focus area discussed by the Committee was the changing role of the Library in providing academic spaces and facilities for student support. A seminar series with external speakers would serve to:

- i) highlight the changing mission and pressing concerns of the OSUL and academic libraries more generally,
- ii) foster communication between the OS Libraries, Faculty Senate Library Committee, and other faculty, and
- iii) enhance support for the OSU Libraries.