

Library Committee

2022-2023 Annual Report

Committee Members

Marit Bovbjerg, Chair '24	Biological & Population Health Sciences
Erica Fleishman '23	College of Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences
Hua-yu Li '23	Public Policy
Janet Nishihara '23	Educational Opportunities Program
Bradley Boovy '24	Language, Culture, & Society
Tim Zuehlsdorff '24	Chemistry
Roberto Albertani '25	Mechanical, Industrial, & Manufacturing Engineering
Dianna Fisher '25	TallWood Design Institute
Tim Jensen '25	Writing, Literature, & Film
Student Members: Carlos Rodarte (undergrad)	
Ex-Officio Member: University Libraries – Anne-Marie Deitering	
Executive Committee Liaison: Margaret Mellinger	

The Faculty Senate Library Committee convened three times this year, and official minutes can be found on [the website](#) (lower right-hand corner). The meeting minutes contain many details and resources from our work this past year. Below is a brief summary.

Elsevier and Other Journal/Publisher Negotiations

The biggest issue affecting the library this year was OSU Libraries & Press (OSULP)'s decision to suspend the subscription contract with Elsevier. This publisher has a long history of price gouging, and they refused to negotiate a new contract in good faith. The Committee served as a sounding board for the Dean of Libraries, providing feedback on:

- campus-wide outreach and education efforts,
- negotiating principles, and
- policies and budget use for interim access measures.

The Committee members also functioned as expert liaisons back to their home units and colleges. The members presented data, answered questions and listened to feedback, which was then passed, in turn, to the Dean of Libraries.

Updating the Open Access Policy

The Library Committee in 2013 spearheaded a campus-wide [open access to scholarly communication policy](#), approved by the Senate in May of that year. In May 2023, the Committee voted to approve an amended version, updated to use gender-inclusive language.

Campus-wide Education About Publishing Costs (Scholarly and Textbook) and Open Access

Members of the Committee became well-versed in the details of publisher pricing shenanigans and, in turn, became advocates for open access resources in their home departments and colleges.

Changes in Library Usage Since 2020

Student and faculty traffic at the library has changed in the last few years. Once classes resumed in person, there was a rebound in people using the library's physical space, but there hasn't as yet been a return to pre-2020 levels. There are many possible explanations, and some of it might be a natural slowdown because of more users becoming aware of materials available online during the pandemic. Nonetheless, the Dean and other OSULP faculty are concerned because students who were in their first or second years during the zoom school terms might never have learned how best to use the library's resources and may be unaware of the variety of resources available in an academic research library. The

Committee again served as a sounding board for the Dean and other faculty on space considerations, hours of operation, outreach to first year and transfer students, etc.

Linn-Benton Community College

The Library Committee supports advocacy by the OSULP and other stakeholders on campus to retain library staff at LBCC. This affects student success for transfer students.