

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE 2014-15

MAY 2015

Shelley King, Chair, Senate Library Committee

Alexander Braun

M. Blake Butler

Tuba Chishti

Stephanie Dickey

Shelley King [Chair]

Darlene Lake

Melissa McCormick-Pawse

Michael Scott

David Skillicorn [*ex officio* Principal's Delegate]

Mark Syer

Michael White

Martha Whitehead [*ex officio* Vice-Provost and University Librarian]

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Senate Library Committee has met regularly with the University Librarian and other members of the Library staff to receive reports and to provide advice on various aspects of the Library's policies and operations. Specific areas of thematic focus for the committee in 2014-15 as determined by the previous year's Committee included i) Library and Archives Master Plan; ii) Acquisitions Support; and iii) Digital Scholarship. As always, the Library Budget remains a subject of ongoing concern. To address these matters, the Committee held meetings October 20, November 24, February 27, and April 24, for which reports and minutes were submitted to Senate according to established protocol.

i) LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES MASTER PLAN

<http://www.queensu.ca/connect/lamp/>

The Senate Library Committee of 2012/2013 was one of the stakeholder groups engaged in the initial development of the Library and Archives Master Plan (LAMP), and the current committee continues to play a role in monitoring the progress of its implementation. At the first 2014/2015 meeting of the Senate Library Committee in October 2014, LAMP Implementation Advisory Group Chair Martha Whitehead provided an update on the status of the first steps in implementing the plan. Key items undertaken in 2013-14 included the production by Queen's Marketing of a video in support of LAMP and a contract for a project manager to undertake the first phases of the plan. Projects proposed for 2014-15 included i) the restructuring of the Law Library, ii) preliminary consultation regarding moving Music collections to Stauffer; and iii) community design consultation for the development of the Stauffer Library Terrace project scheduled to open Summer/Fall 2016. At the final meeting of the SLC 24 April 2015 Martha Whitehead reported on the encouraging progress of these initial stages of LAMP

implementation: i) Architectural plans for the Law Library are almost complete and construction will be undertaken over the Spring and Summer terms. Changes will include new student space on the lower floor and the addition on the main floor of a soft seating area as well as two study rooms dedicated to the use of students with disabilities and two bookable group meeting rooms; ii) establishment of a committee including members of the School of Music to identify requirements for housing the Music collection in Stauffer Library; and iii) successful consultation between stakeholders and project manager Joe Davis regarding design of the Stauffer Terrace that will lead to the development of concept drawings. The current Senate Library Committee Chair, S. King is also a member of the LAMP Implementation Advisory Group, and contributed additional background regarding the LAMP concepts during the Committee's discussion.

The SLC continues to follow with enthusiasm the progress being made in the realization of the vision set forth by LAMP for the development of Library space and services in the coming years. LAMP remains a Senate Library Committee priority.

ii) ACQUISITIONS SUPPORT

Anne Smithers, Acting Coordinator of Collection Development and Assessment, attended the February 27 meeting to talk about factors impacting the acquisitions budget, such as: inflation, publisher pricing practices, Canadian dollar exchange rate, increasing enrolment, and new needs of academic programs and research. The SLC discussed the ongoing challenges posed by these factors and agreed that this would remain an issue that merits monitoring.

iii) DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

In November we were visited by 4th-year English student Tiffany Chan, who presented on her internship with Special Collections, co-supervised by Alvan Bregman and Tiffany's instructors from the BISC Digital Humanities Field School, Shannon Smith and Emily Murphy. Her project on digitizing 19th-century stereoscopic cards explored the challenges and benefits of a DH approach to preserving and disseminating the library's holdings. S. King reiterated the degree to which members of the Library have been instrumental in supporting efforts on campus to raise the profile of Digital Scholarship and in assisting individual scholars to realize the opportunities a digital approach presents for their research. Tiffany Chan's presentation highlighted the benefits the proposed Centre for Digital and Print Culture in Douglas Library (a sub-project recommended by LAMP) would offer to undergraduate research.

The Senate Library Committee reviewed and supported each of the stated priorities. The presentation of the Library's 2013-14 Annual Report by Martha Whitehead at the final meeting of the SLC prompted discussion of the importance of the marketing and branding of Queen's University Library as a means of promoting interest and investment. The upcoming 175th anniversary of the University was regarded as an opportunity for the Library to showcase its brand and to attract the donors needed to fund the ongoing development of LAMP initiatives. As in 2013-14, concerns were raised regarding the acquisitions budget and the strategies that must be developed to meet changing demands in a sustainable fashion. Given the information reviewed over the course of the year, the SLC makes the following recommendations regarding the Agenda items for next year:

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Senate Library Committee recommends that Agenda items for next year should include

1. Library and Archives Master Plan, including support for digital scholarship
2. Open Access developments in research and learning
3. Community engagement, including Q175th celebrations planning
4. Budget: monitoring the impact of financial constraints on the Library's academic mission