

Wilfrid Laurier University Library Council

Draft Minutes - Thursday, January 19, 2023 Teams Virtual Meeting, 10:00am - 11:30am

Present: Gohar Ashoughian (Chair), Kathy Behrendt (Faculty Rep), Scott Gilles, Gordon Bertrand, Debbie Chaves, Pauline Dewan, Michelle Goodridge, Dillon Moore, Amanda Oliver, Joanne Oud, Mark Weiler, Ian Fraser, Doug Roberts, Matt Tales, Bruce Arai, Michael Steeleworthy, Mark Weiler, Irene Tencinger, Charlotte Innerd, Peter Genzinger, Fiona Inglis, Helene LeBlanc, Ania Szablewski, Christina Kerr, Dawn Westwater, Jennifer Ferfolja, Jennifer Robertson – Wilson, Meredith Fisher, Tina Liu, Siu Hong Yu, Mona Elayyan, Una Glisic, Dillon Moore, Matthew Rowheder.

Regrets: Shirley Chen, CJ Nyssen

1. Welcome and introductions

- Gohar Ashoughian welcomed everyone to the meeting and re-introduced new Faculty (Bruce Arai, Shirley Chen) and Student members (Ian Fraser, Shane Symington, Liam Chapin) to the Library Council, and Ania Szablewski and Dawn Westwater to the Library User and Access Services Department. Gohar noted four new librarians starting at Laurier and welcomed them to the library (Siu Hong Yu, Fiona Inglis, CJ Nyssen, and Tina Liu).

2. Approval of the agenda

- Motion: Gohar Ashoughian moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bruce Arai.
- Gohar proposed for the council meeting to be recorded for recording meeting minutes and was approved by all.

3. Approval of the minutes from October 18, 2022

- Motion: Gohar Ashoughian moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Bruce Arai.
- Approved by all, no questions.

4. Business arising from the minutes

- none

5. New Business

Laurier Research Data Management (RDM) Strategy - Michael Steeleworthy and Jennifer Ferfolja

Michael Steeleworthy prefaced his presentation by sharing links regarding the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy. Michael noted that WLU's institutional strategy for research data management was

produced based on a requirement from Tri-Agency Research Councils and a desire to better manage and provide access to research data resources.

Michael started by providing some operational definitions to "research data" and "research data management". Michael also referenced the Tri-Agency RDM Policy and commented on its development history and added that the creation of these structures is very vital to ensure high quality of produced research.

Michael added that the Tri-Agency RDM policy has three main requirements:

- Institutional Strategy (discussed in depth throughout this presentation)
- Data Management Planning
- Data Deposit

Laurier RDM Institutional Strategy

Michael introduced a document that outlined the different sections of the Laurier RDM Strategy and covered some of the important parts of it. The different sections of the document included Information regarding Laurier's obligation to the Tri-Agency, how does that translate in terms of researchers' day-to-day activities, and how does Laurier support research with these policies.

Questions:

What is the range of data that is being contemplated?

- Any research data collected by the university or researchers falls under the Tri-Agency policy (as long as your research project is funded by the Tri-council grant)

At what stage are we in terms of campus discussions about ICT capacity?

- Jennifer Ferfolja commented that we are not currently equipped with the resources to provide assistance to all researchers. Moving forward, Jennifer mentioned possibilities for more funds and partnerships to facilitate greater access to these services, in addition to cloud-based options.

What's the strategy on communicating this RDM strategy to our faculties and researchers?

- Michael commented that it is still in the works with ICT.

Can you please comment on borealis?

- Borealis is a data repository where we deposit Laurier Library data. The data is fully curated and findable, and the library funds the costs of the repository services.

What is the policy on research removing/updating their data?

- That is dependent on the repository and varies between them. The obligation is that any data associated with research typically needs to be deposited and made open under the policy.

Are there links for finding these datasets through our scholar repositories?

- Datasets uploaded on borealis are easily found on search engines such as google scholar.

Indigeneity at Laurier – Darren Thomas

Darren Thomas started by introducing himself and mentioning that Laurier has been involved in Indigenous projects for many years now. Darren then elaborated on some of details regarding the Indigenous Strategic Plan at Laurier and commented that they are assessing the current model and editing it where needed. Darren mentioned that he started by separating the Indigenous Affairs office into student support services, and Indigeneity and reconciliation projects. After assessment, setting priorities for projects, multiple initiatives were launched.

Major themes for these initiatives included:

- Support for research projects in Indigenous communities.
- Training initiatives and opportunities for research to succeed in these projects.
- Increased chances for community events and engagement in learning opportunities (e.g., soup lunches).
- Changing current approaches to recruitment of Indigenous students and talent to Laurier.
- Expanding the SEEDS program (mentoring and transition support) for internship and graduate school support.
- Contribute to Indigenous community building capacity.
- Facilitating increased access of Indigenous students to Laurier as an important step towards reconciliation.

Questions:

From a communication perspective, what is the vision for this project?

- One of the commitments for this strategy is to have constant consultations with community members while communicating the strategy.

Do we have any funds available to invite elders/Indigenous community members to events?

- Yes, we have an Indigenous knowledge fund to help with stipends to bring knowledge holders for events.

Library Services in Support of Digital Projects and Digital Pedagogy – Mona Elayyan

Mona navigated through the Digital Projects website and introduced its different sections.

Mona mentioned that she is going to comment on some of the initiatives available at the library to help with digital initiatives and online exhibitions.

- 1- Teaching and curriculum building – consultations regarding starting projects revolving around digital humanities (research methods, technical resources, etc.). Online exhibitions for curating digital projects.
- 2- Digital pedagogy – to work closely with faculty to integrate elements of digital humanities into the classroom.

Questions:

Have we been asked about physical space regarding digital projects?

- Mona added that it has not come up yet and that we are being careful in terms of the types of initiatives to start since we do not have space capacities at this point.

Do our online exhibitions have end-of-life dates?

- The exhibitions are not meant to be permanent and have end-of-life dates. Posting dates depend on the agreements we have with faculty members.

6. University Librarian Report

Gohar noted that she is now in the last six months of her second term as University Librarian.

Gohar added that we are in the process of trying to find storage capacity for archives and special collections and art collection. The current plan is to have a storage facility in 232 King Street to move the archival and art collections there.

Gohar noted that we are working on the Laurier Indigenous Mural Project and are expecting an Indigenous mural painted on the south wall of the library building. After selecting an artist, community consultations will start and hopefully have a Mural posted by Indigenous day on June 21st.

Gohar welcomed again the 4 new librarians and added that we have been undergoing some organizational changes for user and access services and copyright and course resources for revising technical services.

SAO position remains vacant. Initial process failed and position is now reposted.

Questions:

- No questions

7. Other

- No other business

8. Next Meeting

- Tuesday, March 28, 2023

9. Adjournment

- Motion: Gohar moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned by consensus at 11:23 a.m.