MINUTES

Attendees: Lawrence Burr (Chair), Jakob Gattinger, Peter Meehan, Susan Parker (Librarian) Lauren Small (Secretary), Verena Griess.

Regrets: Meigan Aronson, Gage Averill, Luanne Freund, Ainsley MacDougall, James Olson, Pam Ratner.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by general consent.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 19 April 2018

The minutes of the meeting of 19 April 2018 were tabled for approval at the next meeting as the incorrect minutes were circulated.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

Verena Griess was elected as Vice-Chair.

4. Committee 2018-19 Meeting Schedule

The committee meeting schedule for the 2018-19 academic year was briefly discussed.

5. University Librarian Report – Susan Parker, University Librarian

The University Librarian advised that this report was solely in regards to the Vancouver campus and is available online: https://about.library.ubc.ca/files/2018/08/2017-18 UBCLibrary_SR_FINAL.pdf.

The Library has a total of 2.4 million e-books and 5.5 million physical collections. There have been 6.6 million e-journal downloads and 4.6 million e-book downloads. This is divided into 81 e-journal downloads per person, and 56 e-book downloads per person.

New editions are continually added to the collections, both in printed and virtual form. Recently, the Library acquired the only known surviving copy of the Vancouver Weekly Herald, the first item printed in the city of Vancouver (1886). The Library has also acquired the Weynton Journal, the earliest first-hand account of BC written by an English woman.

The Library is committed to helping students succeed. The student writing consultants at UBC Vancouver’s Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication (CWSC) are approved for the College Reading and Learning Association’s International Tutor Training Program Certification. There has been a 36% increase in one-on-one sessions at the CWSC.
The Library collaborates in open collections, providing researchers with the platform for open, linked and visualized data projects. There are 3.7 million visits to the open collections online. In addition, many community events and exhibits are hosted and curated by the Libraries at UBC. The Woodward Library hosted the “In Search of Nursing’s History” symposium in partnership with the School of Nursing’s Consortium of Nursing History and BC’s History of Nursing Society. Other exhibits hosted by the UBC libraries include, “The Canadian Jewish Experience Exhibit”, and “Double Exposure: Japan-Canada: Missionary Photographs of Meiji-Taisho Japan”.

The UBC Library also engages with community partners. The Asian Library partnered with the Faculty of Arts to expand their Asian language book club programming. Korean and Punjabi book clubs have been added to the existing Chinese and Japanese book clubs. In addition, UBC library employees visited the Musqueam First Nation, on an experiential learning tour to expand learning and relationships. Furthermore, a pop-up library was created at Lee Square for UBC’s inaugural Pride Picnic. Active participation in on-campus community events is a direct way that UBC Library connects with community members to provide specialized library resources.

There is a large shift from print to electronic resources. In terms of spending, 10 years ago 45% of collection spending was on print resources. Now, 19% of spending is on print, and 81% is on electronic resources. The majority of print spending is on materials that are specialized, especially in Asian and Middle Eastern languages. In terms of acquiring resources, the Library is continuing the shift from print to electronic. Many purchases are being made in US Dollars. In fact, 87% of the collections budget went towards purchases of material invoiced in USD. In terms of expenditures, the UBC Library is consistent with other libraries, in that 40% is spent on collections, 40% on salaries, and the rest being spent on benefits and other costs.

Looking ahead, the Library will continue to focus on purchasing large, multi-disciplinary e-book packages that allow for perpetual access, and will continue to negotiate with vendors of resources. The Library is also involved with collaborating with libraries and organizations across Canada.

The Library’s strategic planning process is underway and will align with the UBC Strategic Plan. Consultants have been hired to work with the library to facilitate this process, which will most likely be completed in the spring. One member asked if UBC Okanagan would be involved in the Library’s Strategic Plan. The University Librarian responded that the library in the Okanagan has its own strategic plan, but they will be consulted. The Vancouver and Okanagan campuses work together on what resources are needed for programs on both campuses.

**ACTION:** The University Librarian to present this report to Senate at the next Senate meeting.

6. **Evening Library Hours**

The University Librarian noted that there are certain costs associated with libraries staying open later, the largest issue being the cost of running a building and funding the staff required to keep the building open late. One member suggested that students may be more interested in access to work and study space, not necessarily access to the library. If this is the case, there are many places on campus that have these kinds of resources/workspaces. The Committee agreed that defining exactly what the need is for later library hours is important. Secondly, it would be vital to understand how students are using spaces across campus and if they are aware that certain work spaces exist across the university. The University Librarian noted that research shows undergraduate students in particular feel that studying amongst other people who are also studying is beneficial and that studying in an environment such as a library sets their mind to the task.
Furthermore, it was acknowledged that students look to the Library because it is viewed as a safe space. The different hours of operation of study spaces force students to move around campus late at night, sometimes over relatively significant distances, which can create safety concerns. The University Librarian also acknowledged that there may also be an issue of student mental health and wellness – is it advisable for libraries to be open late, as this may encourage students to be studying/working late into the evening? It was noted that the Student Health and Wellness Committee may want to explore this further.

**ACTION:** The University Librarian to commission a study with the staff in the library to determine the cost of having later hours for the library.

7. **Library Orientations**

The University Librarian acknowledged that the Library currently does not have enough librarians to deliver a tutorial or course; however librarians are eager to present in classes. It would be helpful to determine exactly what the Department of English requires in terms of time and level of orientation. This would need to be well-designed and appropriately delivered by enough individuals in order to make a difference. It was noted that workshops are completed more easily in a library setting where students come as a class or in a group to the library. Orientations are given on a larger, more generalized scale, but more may need to be done to make students aware of this. To include an orientation at a first year event, such as at Imagine UBC, would be beneficial. One member noted that Jump Start provides a short introduction to the library.

The Chair noted that this would reach the greatest number of students if it was part of a first year English class.

**ACTION:** The University Librarian to liaison with the English Department and Associate Deans in the Faculty of Arts to determine if there is a place for this and how it could be incorporated.

8. **Other Business**

None.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.