

**Library Council Minutes**  
**December 21, 2023**  
**1:30 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Present:** Melissa Belvadi, Katelyn Browne (Secretary), Rob Drew, Sarah Fisher, Mackenzie Johnson, Rosie Le Faive, Simon Lloyd, Keltie MacPhail, Noah Mannholland, Courtney Matthews, Kim Mears, Donald Moses (Chair)

**Regrets:** Nayana Sunila

**Meeting Online:**

<https://upej.zoom.us/j/66416002535?pwd=Ly9UeDRSTHRLazF4Ti9laE5PZDd5dz09>

**Land Acknowledgement** offered by the Chair, who drew the group's attention to the campus notice about Erin Reid's assumption of the interim dean role in IKERAS as Gary Evans completes his term.

- **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by K. Browne, seconded by C. Matthews. Consensus was reached.
- **Approval of Minutes** (November 23, 2023): Moved by K. Browne, seconded by M. Belvadi. Consensus was reached.
- **Follow-ups on Pre-submitted Reports:**
  - S. Lloyd inquired about the temperature and relative humidity data shared in the Chair's Report. He would like to work with Facilities alongside D. Moses and M. Belvadi, as the humidity readings have now flipped from being problematically high to being problematically low.
  - K. Mears asked for more details on the emergency kits mentioned in the Chair's Report. S. Lloyd clarified that they are focused primarily on the immediate salvaging of collection materials as we already have evacuation procedures and first aid kits for human health emergencies. Ideally, there will be one of these kits on the ground level of the library and one on the upper level, in well-known locations that can be accessed quickly.
- **Student Reports**
  - Undergraduate students
    - N. Mannholland followed up on his presubmitted report about iMacs and the UPEISU's ability to replace light therapy lamps if missing.
      - S. Lloyd expressed appreciation that the iMacs are being repurposed based on his experience working with one of our decommissioned machines.
      - D. Moses expressed his thanks to Larry Yeo for his work reimagining the decommissioned iMacs.
      - R. Le Faive and M. Johnson asked how many iMacs were involved. D. Moses answered that it was about ten.
      - D. Moses will follow up on the lost light therapy lamps in collaboration with the Access Services staff.
    - N. Mannholland reported that CASA is arguing staunchly that educational fair dealing should be preserved when the Copyright Act is renewed; however, they face opposition from lobbyists arguing that fair dealing is a

substantial reason why publishing revenues are down and thus it should be abolished or reduced.

- S. Lloyd made a connection between CASA's work and similar work that CAUT is doing to advocate for educational fair dealing and offered to share more information with the Student Union.
- Graduate students
  - No report
- **Post-Library Council CUPE** (R. Drew, S. Fisher)
  - No items to bring forward.
- **Past Items for Discussion or Proposals**
  - Library Operations
    - Should the library leave Twitter/X?
      - The Chair provided an update on the implementation of Council's recommendation. The posting app "Later" has been disconnected, and our Twitter archive has been successfully downloaded. D. Moses and S. Lloyd are working together on next steps.
      - M. Belvadi asked when we could remove the links from the bottom of our homepage. The Chair suggested, and there was no disagreement, that she could do so any time after this meeting.
    - Winter library hours update
      - As discussed in November, the hours for January 2nd - 14th have been reduced based on staffing levels.
      - Alysa Clayton's part-time position has been temporarily increased to full-time to help staff the library while we work to fill positions.
      - K. Mears suggested creating a more prominent chart with the temporary hours while they are in force, rather than expecting people to check the fine print under the main table. M. Belvadi, adding agreed that it would be helpful to make the temporary hours as clear as possible on the website while they are in force. M. Johnson noted that this could be done similarly to the way exam hours have recently been displayed.
      - The Chair asked for consensus on the reduced hours. Consensus was reached.
  - Library Planning / Future Directions
    - Library fundraising
      - The Chair showed the physical fundraising brochure that is now available. Extra copies are available in his office if anyone has people they would like to share the brochure with.
      - D. Moses will be meeting with Development early in the new year to plan the official launch of the Library's fundraising campaign.
- **Items for Discussion or Proposals**
  - Library Operations
    - Update on construction in the Pit
      - According to Blair MacKay in Facilities, the plan is to have the construction finished by the first week in February.
      - Ancillary Services worked with the vending machine company; the machines from the Pit have been moved into the Library and are

being refilled, creating one option for people to access food while using the Library on evenings and weekends.

- Recognition of retirees
  - The Chair acknowledged the five recent and upcoming retirees from the library: Pauline MacPherson, Wendy Collett, Wendy Henderson, Larry Yeo, and Dorothy Peters. They represent a combined 152 years of service, or 190 years with Leo Cheverie's years of service included. The Chair particularly acknowledged Dorothy Peters's 45 years of service, which is either unique or very rare in the history of the University.
- Library Planning / Future Directions
  - Strategic enrolment
    - A strategic enrolment management plan has been put together at Dr. Naterer's direction which includes a strategic enrolment committee with several subcommittees. As University Librarian, D. Moses is participating in this work. Meetings have just begun, but it is looking at the right size for enrolment at the University. Librarians have provided some feedback, and D. Moses looks forward to hearing more from librarians, staff, and students alike.
    - R. Le Faive asked for clarification of what "strategic enrolment" means in this context.
      - D. Moses explains that it involves looking at numbers and mixes of students, facilities, new and existing programmes, resources, staffing, etc.
      - K. Mears shared a link to <https://www.upei.ca/ovpar/initiatives/strategic-enrolment-management>, which currently says that "This SEM aims to better understand and achieve optimal enrolments, recruitment, retention and graduation rates. In this context, 'optimal' is defined as enrolments that uphold a quality education and student success, while operating in a sustainable manner in terms of human, financial and physical resources."
      - R. Le Faive asked if the goal is to continue to increase enrolment and particularly the enrolment of international students, as the University has been doing for some time. D. Moses clarified that the University has recently had unrestricted growth with no strategic enrolment plan, and the committee is now working on more proactive planning and adjustment.
      - K. Mears asked if a librarian had yet volunteered for the student success committee. No librarian has volunteered to join, though a spot was reserved for one. D. Moses plans to ask whether a Library staff member could serve in that spot. K. Mears also asked whether it would make sense to have a Library representative on the resource management subcommittee, particularly if it's focused on the types of resources we manage.
  - Novanet
    - D. Moses reports: Novanet is a consortium of libraries primarily in Nova Scotia, but also including one in New Brunswick, that shares

a number of resources, including an ILS, a resource-sharing (“borrow anywhere, return anywhere”) system, and a shared chat service. They are also looking at cooperative collection development for their members. Their long-term director is retiring and they are recruiting a two-year term manager with the idea of using those two years to think about Novanet and its future. The majority of CAAL members are also Novanet members, so CAAL is working with Novanet through a joint committee to consider a shared future for Novanet and CAAL. D. Moses is participating in this work and has attended one meeting so far.

- C. Matthews asked whether we have considered joining Novanet. What are the broad pros and cons?
  - D. Moses clarified that they used to be exclusively Nova Scotia libraries, but recently Mount Allison has joined. They are the only non-Nova Scotia members at the present time. So now, there is precedent for libraries outside Nova Scotia to participate in Novanet. It will be something to think about for our future as well.
  - C. Matthews asked whether joining Novanet would have any impact on Interlibrary Loan costs.
    - D. Moses answered that we do not currently pay for loans between institutions in the region. He does have concern about the future of Relais based on some fracturing within CAAL—e.g. MUN and UdeM are not currently participating in Relais. Changes to Relais participation could impact our costs.
    - K. Mears echoed the concerns about libraries withdrawing from Relais as it increases the amount of work the Interlibrary Loan staff need to do. Chris MacLauchlan has shared that she still thinks Relais is our best option for the time being. Part of the reason some universities are moving away from Relais may be the use of an Ex Libris product at libraries that have switched to Alma/Primo. If the consortium changes platforms, we would likely need to change along with them. For now, we are just keeping an eye on it.
    - M. Johnson asked if Novanet members use the ILL process to exchange materials since they use a shared catalogue. D. Moses and K. Mears did not know, but can ask colleagues in the region. K. Mears noted that most are still using Relais at the moment for loans outside of the consortium.

- **Roundtable**

- C. Matthews: happy to have reached the end of the term! The Systems unit has been working steadily at reconfiguring backups and addressing the issues related to the AVC data centre.
- K. Mears: the government of Nova Scotia is going to fund Atlantic OER for the next three years. The news just came out today!  
<https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20231221001>
  - D. Moses acknowledged the advocacy of CAAL and StudentsNS in advocating for this funding. An official announcement should be forthcoming.
- M. Johnson: has accepted an offer for a 3-year term position as cataloguing librarian at the University of Saskatchewan starting in February. He will finish work at UPEI on January 12th.
- M. Belvadi: virtually attending OLA at the end of January.
- K. Browne: successful SotL grant application with Lyndsay Moffatt (Education) to do a literature review about the work of collaboratively teaching graduate students how to do literature reviews
- R. Le Faive: acknowledgement of everyone who has helped with the transition back into the Metadata Librarian role, particularly M. Johnson.
- Several members expressed thanks for everyone's collaborative work and best wishes for a happy holiday break next week.