

## Libraries Committee Meeting

**10/19/2022**

In attendance: Corey Harmon, Shannon Powell, Kawanna Bright, Robin Haller, Ciprian Popoviciu, Armin Krishnan, Kirstin Squint, Jan Lewis, Beth Ketterman, Kelly Spring, Rachel Baker, and Brandon Stilley (guest)

Absent: Helen Dixon and Jamie Bloss

Called to order at 3:20pm via Teams, adjourned at 4:21pm

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### **Agenda Items & Actions**

1. Welcome and Roll: Introductions and comments on library services by all committee members and guests.
2. Edits to the Minutes: one correction to last meeting's minutes was requested – to remove Kelly Spring from the list of attendees.
3. Service Showcase: Brandon Stilley, Interim Head of the Music Library gave an overview of the services and activities of the Music Library, which include:
  - a) Public services: the Music Library provides equipment for checkout, phone chargers, SD readers, and voice amplification devices;
  - b) Education/ instruction: the Music Library has organized displays and exhibits on music topics related to Native American Heritage, African American Heritage, and popular topics such as Musicians and their Dogs;
  - c) Cataloging: the Music Library is currently working on catalog enhancement in the form of adding additional information to the catalog such as tables of contents and abstracts to improve the usability and make searches easier; there is also a call number label project that is designed to increase efficiency and make shelf-reading easier;
  - d) Consultation: the Music Library provides consultation to researchers and students to track down literature;
  - e) Outreach: the Music Library had fewer outreach activities due to the COVID pandemic, but has resumed some since the pandemic is over; there are Happy Hour events on every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month in November and December with refreshments.
4. Report from Jan Lewis on Academic Library Services: items included:
  - a) Higher foot traffic: almost 80,000 students and faculty visited the Joyner Library, which was 7,000 more than during 2021;

- b) Engagement and outreach activities: Banned Books Week, Constitution Day, and Bingo game;
  - c) Decoration and opening ceremony of the Ann B. Laliotes Reading Room on September 15, 2022;
  - d) Upcoming events: exhibit and lecture by ECU Geography Professor Misun Hur on November 4, 2022, at 4pm;
  - e) Recruitment: the library hired two faculty members in spring term and was able to offer four positions for fall term, two of which have been filled, namely, for a Manuscripts Curator and one for an Open Access and Publishing Support Librarian; two positions, one for a Digital Archivist and one for a Collection Strategist & Assessment Librarian remain open.
5. HSL Update from Beth Ketterman:
- a) Grant: the HSL has received a three-year National Leadership Grant to work with NC State University Agromedicine Extension, NC Health Area Education Centers, NC Farmworker Health Program, Student Action with Farm Workers, and the NC Agriculture Digital Alliance to address digital equity in rural communities; there is a student research position advertised in relation to the grant;
  - b) Event: Fall 2022 Medical History Interest Group Lecture Series: upcoming lecture by Julius Mallette: “They Made a DIFFERENCE: The Old North State Medical Society and African American Hospitals during Segregation in North Carolina”;
  - c) Event: HSL Diversity Committee webinar panel discussion on November 2, 2022 via WebEx;
  - d) Event: 17<sup>th</sup> Author Recognition Event on November 8, 2022.
6. Tenure-track Eligibility for Library Faculty:
- a) During a faculty governance discussion a non-librarian made the suggestion to make librarians eligible for tenure-track positions, which resulted in the issue getting added to the Library Committee report. Informal discussions about the issue have taken place with Faculty Senate Chairs Martinez and Ticknor.
  - b) The following obstacles to this proposal were pointed out at the meeting: 1) creation of tenure-track positions would need approval by the Faculty Senate and would require Chancellor Review and Approval; 2) current fixed-term librarian positions cannot be converted to tenure-track, but eligible individuals can apply for such positions if they were advertised; 3) creation of tenure-track positions might mean the need for more positions to provide the same service, as fixed-term faculty have no research responsibility; 4) there could be HR budget implications due to the nature of tenure-track positions vs. fixed-term positions and it would go against a broader trend in academia away from tenure-track; 5) ECU librarians may not be interested in the creation of new tenure-track positions.

- c) It was suggested to first have meetings with ECU librarians to discuss how much demand is on their part for tenure-track eligibility of librarians, either in separate meetings for the library branches or together.

7. Next meeting and format:

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 3:20pm to 4:20pm via MS Teams.