University Library Committee Minutes

9 February 2021
2pm-3pm
Meeting via Zoom

- **Collection Update and the Larger Context of Open & Sustainable Scholarship -** Hilary Davis, *Head, Collections & Research Strategy and Interim Head, Research Engagement;* Micah Vandegrift, *Open Knowledge Librarian* Presentation link

- **Collections Update**
  - For Background: Presentation shared with ULC in November reviewing the Libraries collections expenditures. go.ncsu.edu/collections-update-fall2020
  - We are cautiously optimistic about the Libraries collections budget in the coming year. But to be prepared for a range of possible outcomes, we have prepared for the possibility of budget cuts between 5% and 25% ($500K- $3M.) **At this time, we do not anticipate cuts of this magnitude.**
    - We would attempt to mitigate the effect of smaller budget cuts by increasing the use of F&A funds for research collections
    - In the event of large cuts we would also consider unbundling large journal packages ("big deals") after our current contracts end in December 2022. Our three big deals account for 40% of our total collections budget.
    - If faced with large cuts we will review data regarding current usage, seek feedback from the ULC and Departmental Libraries Representatives to make decisions about which titles to retain and which to eliminate, and develop a plan to communicate this news to campus.
    - The Libraries has perpetual access to journal backfiles, so any cuts would affect access to newly published articles. We would request articles through Interlibrary Loan (the Libraries' Tripsaver service), which would result in a delay of 12-36 hours.
    - If cuts are required at some point in the future, we can learn from the experiences of other libraries who have had to work through this process in recent years.
  - In the meantime, we have continued to explore options for increasing the sustainability of cost models for accessing journal content, including consortial purchasing, using the collective influence of the research library community, and open access publishing.

- **Supporting Open Research and Scholarship**
  - We are investing in "Open interventions" in infrastructure, projects, and programs and initiatives.
    - By "infrastructure" we mean the sets of services, protocols, standards and software that the academic ecosystem needs in order to perform its functions throughout the research lifecycle. Some examples include the Dryad data repository, and our investment in ORCID for researcher identification.
    - Examples of collaborative open research projects we have contributed to include open textbooks and other open educational resources.
    - We also supported programs and initiatives that build cohorts of researchers who are interested in open research practices. An example of this is the Open Incubator program.
  - Our ultimate goal is to advocate for open scholarship, and promote efforts to validate and incentivize open research in the Promotion & Tenure process
  - The cost of publishing and accessing scholarship is unsustainable, and we are reaching an inflection point where large universities are not going to have the budget to sustain the current model. We expect this will lead to fundamental structural changes to the ways that scholarship is published, shared, validated, and recognized.
  - It's not an either/or system. Open access can coexist with traditional scholarly publishing

- **Spring Semester Observations** - Greg Raschke, *Senior Vice Provost and Director of Libraries*; Rob Rucker, *Chief Strategist for Student Success* (10 min)
  - Library gate counts
    - Fall 2020 gate counts were down 90% from fall 2019
    - Spring 2021 gate counts are down 80-85% from Spring 2019
    - We are pushing online services as much as possible, offering many online workshops and instruction sessions. We continue to ship books and technology to those who need it.
  - Masking compliance has improved greatly from the fall semester. The university's strong messaging on compliance has helped us to enforce this as a community norm. If a person is caught three times without their mask, we can revoke their access to the library for the rest of the semester.
  - We have slightly expanded our hours this spring, and will expand again during finals.
  - We will discuss fall hours at the next ULC meeting.

Adjourn

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 13 at 1pm