

HSL Advisory Council Spring 2022 Meeting February 16, 2022

Meeting began via Zoom at 2 pm

Attending: Denice Adkins, Jon Stemmler, Sherri Ulbrich, Jenny Bossaller, Kate Wessler, Deidre Wipke-Tevis, Gayle Mooney, Chris Pryor, and Diane Johnson,

Welcome: Chris Pryor welcomed everyone and said that she changed the meeting time to one hour because of other commitments but would like to keep that time frame moving forward. She said she also envisions that we would keep meeting via zoom. She then said that she asked Terri Hall, head of HSL Circulation, to start attending the meetings. No one had any objections to any of these changes.

Chris said that she has been thinking of creating a Teams channel for the group. That way if they have a question or something to share that would benefit the group they do not have to wait until either the spring or fall meeting. She would not be constantly putting something in the Teams channel to look at, rather it would be a way to communicate and share events, questions and other items of interest to the group. Jon said that would be a better way of communicating than using email, which sometimes just gets deleted. It is also a way for people who cannot attend the meetings to participate and give insight and feedback to the group. The consensus of the group is to give it a try. Chris will set it up.

HSL Update: Chris and Diane Chris said that operations at HSL for this school year is not quite up to pre-covid but is getting close. Hours have been extended to 9pm during the week and we are open on Saturday and Sunday. MU Healthcare still requires the building to be locked down with card access only. Chris does not know when that will change but will let everyone know as soon as she hears something.

Chris showed everyone a picture of HSL's new door and said everyone is excited to have it installed. We have been wanting something like this since 1985. It is fully motorized; one door is automated and has a badge reader which allows staff early and late access to the library. We can still use a key, but we do not have to. This one has an emergency crash bar (the old one did not) so staff could still be "locked in" but can use the bar to exit. The new door opens the possibility of extended hour access for students, though we are not there yet and have construction on the horizon. We would also have to address additional security if we do extend access.

We mentioned contactless lockers at our last meeting. Those have been installed both in the SOM building and at Ellis. This gives students 24 access to pick up materials. They have a barcode which they scan and then they can open the lockers to get their items.

The Health Sciences Library continues to go through considerable change. We are now limited to just the second floor of the building. About 90% of our print collection is being relocated – not discarded but relocated – to the UMLD on Lemoyne. Users will not experience much difference. If someone needs an article, the staff at Lemoyne can quickly find it, scan it and email it out. As far as books and other requests, UMLD will make multiple runs each day to the various libraries on campus. If there is an item that we get multiple requests on we will consider bringing it back on site. We designed our shelving to accommodate this as well as leave us room for new materials. Movers have moved the volumes off the first floor and the 3rd floor is almost done with an anticipated finish date sometime in early March. Processing all the material should be completed sometime in April. There have been ongoing talks between HSL and the SOM to completely separate the floors in the building. This will require a major renovation and probably means shutting down the physical building during construction. It looks like the plan has slowed a bit since it was originally brought up. As soon as Chris has a tentative timeline, she will let everyone know. No one had any questions, so Chris turned the meeting over to Diane.

Diane began by talking about the changes in our physical collections. We kept most of the books published 2010 onward, but about 90% of our material is online. To give you an idea what that means in terms of usage, in 2020, over 2000 of our e-Books had in excess of 100,00 views. One of the top choices was an emergency medical textbook that had 59,000 views. Books not currently housed at HSL can be requested for pickup either in the library or in the new lockers on the 1st floor of the Med Sci building.

Diane said that there will be major changes coming to Merlin which is an antiquated system that hadn't changed much over the years. In fact, parents of current students were using it when they went to MU. Many details still need to be worked out, but the search screen will be similar to the All-Books dropdown on our homepage. There will also be a way to request books from the depository or other campus libraries, but the screens will be different. She said just be aware that there is a lot of backroom work that is hidden from the user. Getting books delivered from MOBIUS libraries will likely not be as seamless as it has been. Books can also be obtained through the interlibrary loan service.

We continue to work with publishers, as part of their deal, to get author waivers on open access fees as a benefit of our subscription. These so-called "read & publish agreements" is a fairly new concept. We must be very careful dealing with the revenue part of this, making sure that these deals are either cost-neutral or cost-saving. Some publishers are offering "deals" that increase our spending, or lock in a new funding stream for them. Diane said she will send everyone a list of journals that currently waive the fees.

Diane said she had mentioned last meeting but wanted to reiterate that if anyone is planning a new course, she is available to discuss open access possibilities. There are more available e-books all the time. It would probably be hard to change course requirements once they are out there, but if we can connect prior to the textbook adoption stage, we might be able to help find open access teaching material to save our students money. Typically, we don't have much information about courses that are in the pipeline so please remember us when you are planning a new course.

The money to purchase books has been depleted for this fiscal year, but we can still order some eBooks for your classes. We would need the course number and name of the professor before we could order. We will be able to add some eBooks over the coming year, using student success funding, to support fast growing distance learning programs.

We have had to cut our collections another half million in subscriptions to balance our budget due to publisher price increases. Next fiscal year, we are going to have to absorb a lot of medical and nursing journal subscriptions formerly paid for by a 4 campus UM system fund.

There are two surveys the group might be interested in. The campus libraries are currently running a space planning survey. One of the 3 questions focuses on Ellis Library, but another question is open ended asking how the libraries can improve their spaces. The survey is up until Mid-May.

https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7VXtR5wZPFSEbHf. Then, later this semester, there will be a user satisfaction survey going out to everyone from the campus libraries.

Open Discussion: "What are the three best ways to reach students" – everyone Chris said that Diane had asked her group this question and Rebecca Graves thought it would be good to get some answers from a faculty perspective. Jenny said that libraries need to be incorporated into classes on an as-needed basis. Jon seconded that idea. He said he often brought journalism librarians into his classes to help with research needs. Jenny said that she found that students think they are experts in research or are too afraid to ask for help. Jon said that librarians had to physically get in front of students. Sherry said that SON always includes librarians in the orientation each semester and agrees face to face is best. She said people detest emails and often don't pay attention or fully read the email. She said that she will put Amber in touch with the HSL librarians to be sure that they are given every opportunity to be part of the orientation process. Diane said it is good when librarians are introduced by faculty members as "experts in their field". It lets students know that here is someone with something to teach them.

IMLS Presentation – Jenny and Denice. Jenny said a lot has happened since we last gave you an update. To remind everyone, this is a joint grant project developed between the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies and J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library. Students have one more course to complete to get their MLIS: They will be taking Strategic Health Communication in the summer. A few students have had to drop out over the course of study due to covid, graduation and other issues. We have nine in there now. We had originally hoped to imbed ourselves in the communities but have had to change slightly due to covid. By adapting to online and doing things virtually, though, it freed students to be creative in their projects. Denice said some of the project she would never have thought of. Some of the projects concerned regular topics like wellness and mental health, stopping smoking etc, but also there were projects such as creating/distributing “health bags to go” and implementing teen projects destigmatizing reproduction health. Chris said she was impressed with the very outgoing group of students doing some pretty great things. They want to make a difference and it keeps her excited. Last spring, we were still part of the NNLM, so the students were able to network within that framework. Several of the participants (students and some of the advisory board members) will be going to the Medical Library Association in New Orleans in May. It will give us a chance for our program to be evaluated. We will have one of our students presenting.

Update and open discussion – everyone: Chris asked everyone tell of things going on in their respective departments that would be helpful for this group to know.

Sherri said she had exciting news from SON. The new building is finished enough that we are holding walk throughs for people to see inside and give feedback. It is slated to open the fall of 2022. As it will give us sort of a back door access to HSL, she is hopeful we can reengage with some of the resources and services that we have missed during the construction. Chris said that she, Diane and Terri are thrilled and looking forward to interacting more with the SON faculty and students.

Denice said the MU Chancellor’s Library Committee has written a letter to the provost explaining how budget reductions have harmed our library in both lack of staff, lack of services, and lack of resources. She can send the letter out for anyone who wants to look at it or comment on it.

Chris said that was a last agenda item, so everyone is getting 15 minutes back in their busy day. She thanked everyone for taking the time to fit this meeting into their schedule and appreciates everyone’s support of the Health Sciences Library. If anyone has any issues or questions come up, please do not hesitate to reach out to her. We do plan to have a fall meeting, and, in the meantime, she will launch a Teams channel and see how it works.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45