

LMIS meeting minutes December 2, 2014

Attendees: James Bernhard (chair), Tatiana Kaminsky (secretary), Nick Brody, William Morse, Jane Carlin, Martin Jackson, Benjamin Tromly, Molly Brown, John Wesley, Wade Guidry

Call to order 3:03 by Bernhard.

Minutes from 11/11/14. Approved with minor wording changes.

Update on Senate Charge #6. Bernhard attended the full faculty meeting on November 11 to get feedback from the faculty about the new library faculty circulation policies. There has also been discussion on the faculty listserv about this topic. There seem to be two schools of thought. Some faculty feel that they should be able to have books for an indefinite period of time unless they are recalled. Others feel that faculty should be held to similar standards as other members of the campus community and be asked to return books after a period of time (12 to 18 months). Bernhard summarized the conversation at the full faculty meeting and on the faculty listserv, the latter of which was meant to help gather information for a Faculty Senate discussion. Some points that have been raised are: the impact that the new policy could have on faculty scholarship, the length of faculty checkout and what seems fair, the potential impact not having the policy could have on our ability to be good partners in the Consortium, and all members of the campus community not being able to access community materials in a timely manner (even with a recall). Additional questions have arisen about how this policy compares to other peer institutions and whether or not the fines and loan periods are in line with others. Discussion about what should happen if a faculty member ignored a recall, whether or not there should be a loan policy for faculty at all if the new policy is revoked, strategies for monitoring our library resources and being a good partner in the Consortium. Additional discussion ensued about the recall policy, which is new with the updated faculty circulation policy. Suggestion made to make the recall policy more explicit in the circulation policy. Another question raised about whether two renewals would be better than one, to allow faculty to have 18 months instead of 12 months, which would accommodate year-long sabbaticals better. Question was raised about the procedure that should be followed at this point, especially since this policy was discussed in some depth in the 2013-2014 academic year, though no formal action was taken by the LMIS committee until earlier this academic year, when the policy was endorsed by the committee on September 23, 2014, after the policy went into effect (approximately July 1). (Though no fines were levied or collected at that time.) Discussion about the steps that LMIS should take at this point. Bernhard recommended making changes and sending the updated policy, along with requests for clarifications, to the Faculty Senate. The policy could then be discussed on a wider scale. Brody also recommended having some options to present to the faculty, including with a side by side comparison with the circulation policies from peer institutions.

For next meeting: Carlin will gather information about the faculty circulation policies at peer institutions and make changes to the Puget Sound policy as follows: extend loan time limit to 18 months, articulate more explicitly the recall policy, change the fine policy to be implemented only in cases of recalled books not being returned in the recall period (only applies to books owned by Puget Sound; fines from Summit and interlibrary loans would still apply), and work

individually with faculty members who feel a need to retain books beyond the 18 month period.
We will revisit the policy at the next meeting.

Adjourned at 4:04 pm.