

LMIS Meeting Minutes
February 05, 2016

Attendees: James Bernhard (Chair), Jane Carlin, Wade Hands, Zaixin Hong (note-taker), Martin Jackson, Melanie Schaffer.

Bernhard called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.
Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Bernhard began the discussion with a focus on whether Puget Sound should support Lever Press (<http://www.leverpress.org>), an initiative of many liberal arts colleges to promote Open Access publishing. Having been aware of his Math colleagues who are familiar with the reviewing process of online scholarly publication, Bernhard looked for acquiring more pertinent information. Carlin introduced how some of our liberal arts college peers are involved in this enterprise in order to promote liberal arts publication through gift funds. She argued that this is another way to make Puget Sound to shine on the national stage by joining Lever Press.

Bernhard asked what kind of business model will Lever Press choose that differs from the other publishers. Carlin said that the differences can be found in comparison to those traditional scholarly journals, purchasing model, cooperative publishing, etc. Bernhard asked who the editors will be for the Open Access publishing. Carlin mentioned that Lever Press is only one-month old, launched on December 4th, 2015. Whitman, Amherst, Middlebury, among others, are the founding institutions. She added that more details can be gathered should we want to join it. Carlin indicated that costs to join the Lever Press initiative would not be funded through general funds and therefore would not impact the library materials budget. There is a five-year commitment. This would be a worthy investment, a start-up highly visible in the Higher Education arena to promote Puget Sound's national profile. Bernhard wondered what sort of faculty involvement will be, as a contributor or in any other form. Carlin noted that there are many initiatives, including experiential learning. So it will be a matter of who wants to harness the opportunity when it is still in the making.

As an editor of *Journal of the History of Economic Thought*, a conventional professional peer-reviewed journal, Hands said that he is not unaware of the view from the other side of situation. However, in practice doing edits of 300 manuscripts per year without financial support, release unit, etc., will not be feasible. Carlin explained that Lever Press does not intend to replace the traditional scholarly journals but to provide a platform for new forms of scholarship.

Bernhard asked how we might want to get into it and what we are hoping the campus to do this. Carlin indicated that as details unfold she would continue to promote this effort on campus and encourage opportunities for publishing and participation. Hands added that we do not know where it will end up with, so it will be important to share updates with faculty already engaged in Open Access publishing programs. For example, Patrick O'Neil is very engaged in it, and Rob Beezer is a very good resource.

In regard to Carlin's note on the fact that large universities take the advantage in publishing business, Bernhard said that hosting something such as Open Access publishing can be an issue,

for traditional publishers will come back. He foresaw that if Lever Press gets enough liberal arts colleges into its business, the complicated situation will show up. Hands observed that more related issues will follow, for example, the Academic Standards Committee will make the adjustment on faculty members' publications in that venue. Carlin agreed that many potential debates will appear accordingly.

Schaffer noted that Lever Press will get students' involvement, for there are very few opportunities for undergraduate students' publication. Hands added that it will relate to the job market for students after graduation.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.