Minutes University Library Committee- October 6th, 2022 12N

Meeting by Zoom

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Attendees:
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- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Potential Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting-

Minutes were approved according to Roberts Rules.

- 3. Discussion about the affordable Textbook Initiative- Zhiwu Xie
 - 1. Affordable (Reusable) Textbook Initiatives
 - 1. Students are dropping courses because the textbook is too expensive. Average of \$1200 per UG student per year. \$1200 x 30,000 students equates to three times the library's annual collections budget.
 - 2. Many "tricks" in textbook publishing increase the cost burden (frequent revision, rental, etc.).

- 3. Biggest issue is getting the faculty (in the summer) to respond with what textbooks they are going to use
- 4. Committee members suggested reaching out to the Undergraduate Coordinators in Departments to find out what textbooks will be used

(https://policies.vt.edu/assets/6400.pdf (thank you to the committee member that provided the policy link.

- 4. 2nd round of the Library Collaborative Research Grant funding- Zhiwu Xie
 - 1. First round was humanities & social sciences; second round for STEM subjects is coming.
 - 1. Collaborative research grant. Library will provide some funds.
 - 2. Library does NOT set the research agenda. Small, "bursty" funds to get concrete things done (\$5K to start). Awarded on lottery instead of a formal merit review. Must have a co-PI in the library. 3-page proposal with brief budget breakdown; what will be delivered in six months. Be clear about the relevance of the library.
 - 3. First round of lottery has completed; library is funding ten projects.
 - 4. Second Phase-

Please check out the <u>updated CFP page</u>, esp lines in <u>red</u>. \$5,000 for each project, expect to fund 5 projects Postdocs are also eligible Proposal due: January 20, 2022 Awards: January 27, 2022 (expected)

For details please visit: https://sites.google.com/vt.edu/lib-collab-grant/

5. Anything else that the members would like to discuss

Joseph Bedford- "I have a question. Would it be possible for the library to support image rights costs or publication costs for articles and books, regardless of whether they are or are not open access or not. I ask because in some fields (for example creative fields like art and architecture) scholarship is not defined by open access. There are many important journals that are key to our careers that don't count for library support for images and publishing costs."

This prompted a discussion on University Resources and Zhiwu Xie suggested we invite Peter Potter from University Libraries to our next session.

6. Adjournment