



University Senate Annual Committee Report Academic Year 2020-2021

Section I

Name of Committee: Library Liaison Committee

Submitted by: Sarah Bolmarcich

Date Submitted: 4/23/21

Membership Roster: Sarah Bolmarcich (SILC, Chair); Steve Graham (Mary Lou Fulton); Chad Haines (SHPRS); Elenore Long (English); Tara Mospan (Law Library); Susanne Neuer (SOLS); James O'Donnell (University Librarian, *ex officio*), René Tanner (ASU Library, STEM Division, Associate Librarian, Chair-Elect of the Librarians' Assembly). University Senate President Simin Levinson and Senate Manager Maria Coca also attended and participated in Committee meetings.

Overview Narrative:

The Library Liaison Committee met seven times during the 2020-21 academic year. At the start of the year, the Committee, in conjunction with the University Librarian, set its priorities as publicizing the new Hayden Library, promoting Library resources in the middle of a pandemic, the Library budget, and how to make textbooks and learning materials more accessible and affordable to students. The Committee reaffirmed its commitment to these topics throughout the academic year, and each was the focus of at least one Committee meeting, if not more.

Section II

Request for Consultations and/or topics reviewed by the Committee and outcomes

1. The Committee inherited one Request for Consultation, 182. (See Appendix A.) This RFC was almost three years old (initiated fall 2018) when the Committee inherited it, and so the initial context in which it had been put forward had been lost to both the Committee and Senate management and leadership. The RFC deals with Committee membership and asks that the Committee review term limits for members, the number of faculty members, and whether all Library Senators should be members of the Committee *ex officio*.

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Membership of the Committee currently stands at six voting members. Voting members do not need to be Senators, as the Committee is an advisory Committee, although the Chair must be a Senator. For the 2020-2021 academic year, for example, five faculty members, four of them Senators, and an academic professional from the Law Library, also a Senator, comprised the Committee. They were joined by the University Librarian and the Chair-elect of the Librarians' Assembly, both serving *ex officio*. Term limits are currently two years, with a possibility of a third year if the third year involves serving as Chair. Committee membership was established by SM2011-14 (see Appendix B) and set at a minimum of four members of the Academic Assembly; membership has stood at six for at least the past few years.

Upon reviewing the RFC and the Committee membership requirements, the Committee felt that no action needed to be taken. The Committee is satisfied with the current membership guidelines and the term limits, as well as the representation of faculty members on the Committee. ***The Committee voted to close the RFC and make no changes, 5-0 (March 16 meeting).***

2. Throughout the academic year, the Committee dealt with the following issues:

a. Promoting the new Hayden Library and reacclimatizing students to the Library and their services as the university emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic (September 22, October 20, April 20 meetings).

1. The Committee toured the new Hayden Library at its meeting on October 20, some members in-person, some virtually. The Committee was impressed with the new building and notes that by no means is the organization of resources in the building final; faculty members are encouraged to make suggestions.

Because the new Hayden opened on January 11, 2020, and ASU turned to remote instruction due to the pandemic on March 11, 2020, very few students have experienced the new Hayden. On-ground traffic during the 2020-21 academic year was about 15% of normal traffic. The Library provided distance access to students who were not on campus, for instance mailing them books so they could complete assignments and research. The Committee believes that the Library did an extraordinary job during the pandemic, and we thank them for that.

The Committee heard from librarians Jennifer DuVernay and Deborah Riley-Huff on the Library's plans to promote the new Hayden and the Library in general in the fall. A proactive saturation marketing campaign is planned; this is essential once one realizes that in the fall, half of the ASU in-person student body—those who were freshmen in 2020-21 and incoming freshmen in fall 2021— have had no or little direct experience of the Library as a physical entity.

b. How the Library can best assist students and faculty with the cost and accessibility of textbooks and learning materials (September 22, November 17, March 16 meetings).

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1. Lorrie McAllister, Associate University Librarian for Collections Services and Analysis, spoke to the Committee on the topic at the March 16 meeting. Textbooks and learning materials are increasingly digital objects and therefore, in order for the Library to provide them, purchasing licenses is required (while a physical textbook need only be purchased once and placed on reserve). This places further constraints upon the Library budget (see item c below). The Library is attempting to shift to greater involvement with open access publishing to fill this gap; staffing challenges currently prevent full implementation of that shift.

2. Ms. McAllister is actively seeking faculty input into the issue and would be happy to speak to any faculty meetings. One Committee member has already invited her to do so and found her presentation extremely useful to that academic unit.

c. The Library's budget situation (September 22, October 20, November 17, January 19, February 16 meetings).

1. Early in the academic year the Library was forced to make a very difficult decision for budgetary reasons, canceling their subscription to the popular Web of Science citation index in favor of another citation index the Library already subscribes to, SCOPUS.

a. The immediate reason for the cancelation was that it would save the Library \$200,000 on what were essentially duplicate citation indices (SCOPUS provides 97% of the coverage that Web of Science does).

b. The underlying reason for the cancelation was that the Library faces a vicious cycle in covering the costs of electronic resources. Subscription costs for electronic databases increase at a rate that outpaces inflation. The Library has received a generous stipend from the University Provost to offset the rising costs, but this is still not enough to balance the Library's budget. Consequently, other areas of the Library's collections budget, including physical book acquisitions, have had to be slashed. Web of Science was the latest and most visible example of this budgetary necessity.

c. The Chair presented the reasoning behind the Web of Science/SCOPUS decision to the Senate at its November 23 meeting. (See Appendix C.)

2. The Committee continued to advise on the budget challenges the Library faces, including in keeping up with its peer institutions. Two solutions in particular presented themselves.

a. More funds to offset the increasing costs of electronic resources. The University Librarian is discussing the matter with the Provost's Office.

b. The Library is currently subject to the ASU policy of budget decentralization, meaning it is treated as an academic unit and contributes funds back to the university. The Library's inclusion in this policy is also under discussion.

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c. The Library is also discussing a plan to coordinate resources among the Library of the PAC-12 schools to broaden the reach of their collections for their users, similar to the Big 10's program.

d. The Committee passed a resolution in support of the Library's efforts to build a sustainable budget, 7-0. (See Appendix D.)

Section III

Request for Consultations and/or topics that were not started or remain unfinished and need to be carried over to the next academic year.


No Requests for Consultation were submitted to the Committee this year. The Committee covered all the topics in its original plan made at the September 22 meeting (budget, textbooks, and marketing the Library's services) and advised the University Librarian on them, but these are not finite topics and are innately mutable, so future Committees will likely revisit the same topics. In fact it is suggested that next year's Chair ask the University Librarian for updates on these topics at the start of the next academic year.

Section IV

Recommendations to the Senate or Final Comments

Committee members suggested that topics of discussion for the next academic year include how the Library selects subscriptions to journals and databases, make other collections decisions, and continued attention to budgetary matters. The Committee also reaffirms the need for ongoing discussion of some of the issues it dealt with this year (see Section III above).

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Bolmarcich, Chair, on behalf of the Committee
Senior Lecturer, School of International Letters and Cultures

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Appendix A: Request for Consultation (182)

RFC Report - Open
Select Committee



Library Liaison
Committee

RFC Number RFC-182 RequestDate 11/28/2018 Status In Committee

Subject Review roster requirements for the Library Liaison committee

Requestor Contact Donna Cataldo Origin Of Request University Academic
Council

RFC Request Details:

11-28-2018: Senate President Donna Cataldo asked Library Liaison committee chairperson Eugene Clay to review the roster requirements for the Library Liaison committee and provide the UAC recommendations for improvement. The review should include term limits, number of faculty members and consideration for ex officio membership for Library Senators

Senate Office Notes:

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Appendix B: SM 2011-14

**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY SENATE
Spring 2011 SESSION**

Senate Motion # 2011-14

Motion Introduced by: Victor Pambuccian, Senator
Richard Bauer, Chair, University Services and Facilities Committee

**Date of Introduction
for First Reading:** January 31, 2011

Date of Second Reading: February 21, 2011

Title of Motion: Motion to Establish Committee on the ASU Libraries

Committee on the ASU Libraries

The Committee on the ASU Libraries shall advise the University Librarian on policies and strategic issues relating to the University Libraries and issues pertaining to innovations in forms of scholarly communication. It assists the library administration in determining the effect on collection development policy of new or changing programs, changing patterns of faculty and student use of the library and its resources, and the varied needs of the different disciplines.

The committee shall be composed of at least four members of the Academic Assembly appointed by the Chair of the UAC, in consultation with the chair of the University Services and Facilities Committee to staggered two-year terms, and the Chair-Elect of the Librarians Assembly elected by librarians to serve a one-year term. Committee selection will be based on representation from all campuses and a variety of disciplines. The committee members will elect a chair from the membership. The University Librarian shall serve as an ex officio, non-voting member. The University Librarian does not serve as chair, but will work with the chair in structuring the agenda.

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Appendix C: Report to Senate on the switch from Web of Science to SCOPUS

Recording of Senate meeting (presentation begins at 1:17:35): [2020-21 Senate Meeting #4 11-23-20 - YouTube](#)

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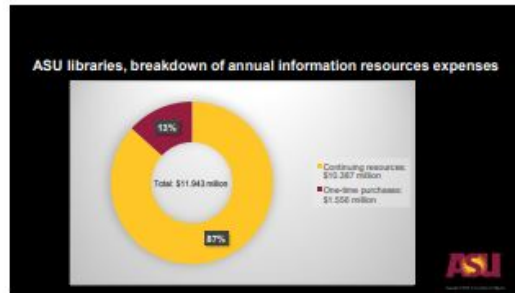
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University Senate Library Liaison Committee Report
Transition from Web of Science to SCOPUS

ASU Arizona State University

Presenter Name: Sarah Bolmarcich
Location: University Senate
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020

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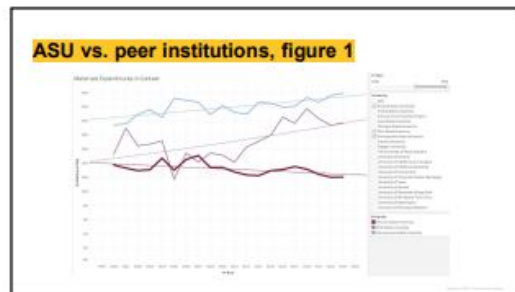


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Starting January 1, 2021, ASU Libraries will no longer subscribe to Web of Science. The libraries will use SCOPUS instead.

- I. Reasons for the decision
- II. Preparation and resources for the transition
- III. Other notes
- IV. Contact information
- V. Questions?

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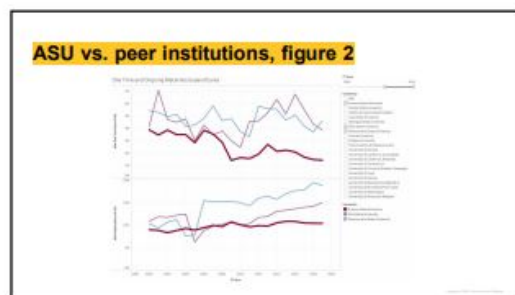
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ASU Libraries, annual information resources budget

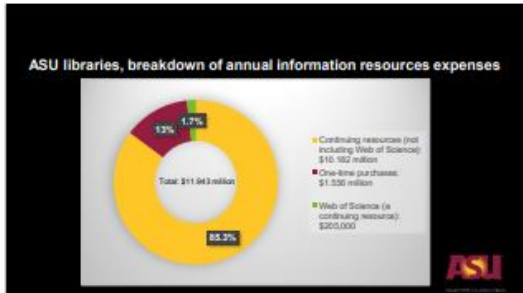
- Library information resources budget (approximate): \$11.943 million
- University contribution to partially balance inflation: \$400,000
- Total allocated: \$11.943 million + an annual deficit of usually several hundred thousand

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Points to remember

- Web of Science...** will not completely vanish. The library will retain access to the citation indices from 1900-2020. Additionally, the library is losing no journal coverage.
- You will retain access to...** anything you created in Web of Science EndNote. Part of the transition is the migration of faculty to EndNote on the web (a free service).
- The library...** has a number of other subscription databases and indices that can be used to cover any gaps between SCOPUS and Web of Science (there is a 3% difference in coverage). And SCOPUS is catching up.
- If you use Web of Science...** to populate citations or references in ASU Vita, you will need to complete that process by December 30, 2020.

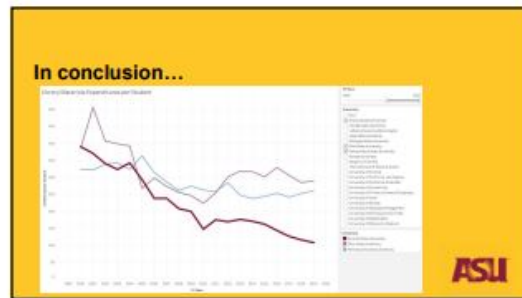
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Comparison of Web of Science and SCOPUS

Feature	Web of Science (WOS)	Web of Science (WOS)
Subscription model	no access \$10M expense	WOS
Indexed	all journals	2,000+ journals
Peer Review	all other papers	100+ journals (peer-reviewed only)
Web of Science	no access	no access
Update frequency	no	no
Journal coverage	no	no
Article coverage	no	no
Supplemental	no	no
Search engine	no	no
Author profiles	no	no

Source: Comparison of Scopus to Web of Science - Scopus - LibGuides at Arizona State University (asu.edu)

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The library plan for the transition

SCOPUS...	The library...
has been owned by all three Arizona state university libraries since 2015 through the Arizona Universities Library Consortium. A number of staff librarians are already very experienced with it.	has created an extensive guide to SCOPUS at Home - Scopus - LibGuides at Arizona State University (asu.edu). It includes FAQs, video directions, and written instructions. Training workshops will be offered virtually and in-person.

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Contact information

- For specific questions about transitions from Web of Science to SCOPUS, John Komer, Head of the library STEM division, John.Komer@asu.edu, OR Eric Prosser, Engineering and Entrepreneurship Librarian, Eric.Prosser@asu.edu
- For general questions on the transition and other collections questions, Debra Riley-Huff, Associate University Librarian on Engagement Learning and Services, Debra.Riley-Huff@asu.edu
- For general library issues to be directed to the Library Liaison Committee, Sarah Bolmarcich (SILC), Chair, LLC, Sarah.Bolmarcich@asu.edu

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Appendix D. Committee resolution on the ASU Library budget:

“RESOLVED: The Library Liaison Committee has been fully informed about the budgetary challenges the ASU Library faces and strongly supports the Library's ambition to build a sustainable budget, particularly for collections and information resources. The Committee understands that work with the Provost is ongoing and will follow up next year to hear of progress.”

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