Library Committee Charge

The charge to the Library Committee is to make recommendations to the provost concerning the continued improvement of the library collection and library services, and academic matters related to library policies and programs.

Committee Members

Denice Adkins, Information Science & Learning Technology
Elizabeth Chang, English
Stamatis Dostoglou, Mathematics
Justin Legarshky, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Kevin Middleton, Pathology & Anatomical Science
Todd Ruppar, Nursing
Eric Sandvol, Geological Sciences
Roberta Tabanelli, Romance Languages & Literature
Joe LaRose, Graduate Student (Plant Sciences)
Dix Pettey, Retiree (ex officio)
Ann Riley, Interim Director of Libraries (ex officio)

Summary of Activities

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Library Committee met three times. Additional work was done electronically among the committee members. The major issue facing the Library Committee this year involved journal subscription cancelations resulting from a combination of rising journal subscription package costs and the continued cuts to the MU Libraries’ budget. The Library Committee sent a letter to Provost Stokes in November 2016 expressing our concerns about continued cuts to the library budget and the impact of such cuts on faculty and students’ ability to fulfill the research and educational missions of the university.

The Committee also continues to discuss the possible proposal of an Open Access policy for MU. We reviewed information on Open Access policies at other universities. A repeated concern is whether the university will provide a fund to support costs incurred by faculty to publish in open-access journals or to make their publications openly available. However, the rising costs of journal subscriptions make Open Access an issue which will not go away, and at some point the committee may need to decide on a policy recommendation to make to the Faculty Council and the MU administration.

The library committee also continues to provide input and consultation to the library administration as issues arise, and serve as an advocate for the libraries to the MU administration and community.