

## **LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

**8 June 2016 1400 Seminar Room 2, The University Library**

### **MINUTES**

Members present

Ms R Gwyer (Chair)  
Mr K Bochen  
Dr D Lloydell  
Mr D Sherren  
Dr J Thomas

Mr K Dick  
Mr M Pearce  
Mr A Simpson  
Dr J Walden

Mrs S Kennedy (Secretariat)

#### **1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr J Mitchell, Ms S Thwaites, Ms L Sharp, Dr J Mills, Mr A Minter and Ms H Coleman.

Prof D Address, Dr J Crellin, Mr D Starkey and Mrs H Thompson-Whiteside did not attend.

#### **2 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2016 (Annex A) were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **3 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **3.1 Building Project Updates (Min 4.3)**

Mr Dick reported that the new toilets are now complete and work will begin on the refurbishment of the existing ones. This means that there will be toilets on each floor of the Library.

Estates are in the final stages of appointing a contractor to undertake the replacement of the Library roof. The work will commence this summer, and timescales will be communicated once they are finalised. The contractors are aware that the Library will remain open during the work, and will be required to make provision for this.

Mobile shelving will be installed on one floor this summer, with the other floor to be completed next summer. This will allow the creation of more silent study areas in enclosed spaces.

### 3.2 24/7 Pilot Update (Min 4.4)

Mr Dick reported that, following a four-week pilot, a proposal was taken to UEB to extend 24/7 opening to all teaching weeks. This has been approved and will commence on 26 September.

## 4 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

### 4.1 Proposed Revised Committee Structure

The Chair reported that a proposal for a revised University academic committee structure will be presented to Academic Council on 21 June. The aim is to revise the structure into three clear strands: Global Engagement; Research and Innovation; Education and Student Experience. It is anticipated that the proposal would mean that Academic Policy Committee, to which the Library Committee reports, will become part of an Education and Student Experience Committee. There would be Library representation on this Committee, but Library Committee would not report to it, and would therefore be discontinued. The Chair said that if this is approved, this Committee will consider how to proceed. She felt that the Committee should continue in some form, possibly as an advisory committee, as we do not want to lose the input from the Faculty Library Committees. She also wishes to strengthen the Library's links to the Research Committee.

Members felt that the Library Committee had a function which would not be fulfilled if it ceased to exist. The Chair agreed to take these comments to Academic Council and suggested that members make their own representations where appropriate.

### 4.2 Elsevier Negotiations

The Chair said that members will be aware that the Library budget is top-sliced to cover big journal deals with various publishers. Most of these are negotiated by JISC Collections on behalf of the sector. Currently negotiations are underway with publishers Elsevier on Science Direct, which is their largest contract. There is general discontent within the sector at the steady increase in costs, which have risen by 12.5% since 2012, and there is a move by the negotiating team to challenge these increases and negotiate a better deal. The Chair said that we will monitor developments.

### 4.3 UK Scholarly Communications Licence

This initiative involves creating a licence to which all universities would sign up, which would enable them to have a standard interface with journal publishers to meet all the requirements of funding bodies and the REF, but enable the university to keep copyright, rather than handing it to the publishers. It would allow researchers to deposit material in the institutional repository, and academics could still publish in the journal of their choice. Some Research intensive universities have signed up to this, and we will monitor the situation to see what the sector ultimately decides.

The following link is to an article on this topic:

<http://insights.uksg.org/articles/10.1629/uksg.292/>

## 5 INFORMATION PROVISION BUDGET

### 5.1 Library Renewals

Mr Simpson presented a paper on Library renewals (Annex B). There are three deals currently up for renewal. He noted that we do not have final figures for price increases but are working with current indications:

#### **Web of Science**

Mr Simpson noted that this provides a very reasonable cost per result click and is well used. Members agreed to renew on a three-year deal, providing the increase is within expected boundaries.

#### **Journal and Highly Cited Data**

This package was upgraded in January, and renewal cost for the new package is therefore unclear. Usage is not high, but the resource is important for research purposes. Members agreed to renew, providing the increase is within expected boundaries.

#### **OECD iLibrary**

The subscription for this package was originally purchased with investment proposal funding. Usage is not high, but as it has only been available for two years, this may increase. It was agreed to renew for a year, with Faculty Librarians promoting widely, and monitor usage over this time.

**Actions Mr Simpson**

## 6 UPDATE ON AUTOMATIC RENEWALS

6.1 Members received a report (Annex C) prepared by Ms K Shakespeare on the launch of automatic renewal of loans for the 2015-2016 academic year. Mr Dick noted that automatic renewals have been in operation since September. The statistics show that this has been very successful from a student perspective. Income on fines is considerably reduced, as was to be expected, and there have been no complaints from students about a reduction in access to materials. It was suggested that the Library should advertise the positive effect on students of the significant reduction in fines levied, without any loss of ability to obtain materials. Mr Bochen agreed to take this to the Students' Union for promotion in The Galleon.

**Action Mr Bochen**

## 7 INTER-LIBRARY LOANS REPORT

7.1 Mr Simpson presented a report (Annex D) on the impact of changes to the inter-library loans system at the end of year two of implementation. He said that the statistics show a slight reduction in expenditure in the second year, which perhaps indicates a settling of demand following the initial changes. Before commencement, there was concern about the level of demand that might result, but the figures suggest there is no significant pressure on budgets or allocations. He noted that the system from the Library staff point of view will be changing over the summer and that would be an appropriate time to change allocations if it was deemed appropriate. Members considered the question of whether an allocation is required. It was agreed to continue with the current allocation for a further year, but that if a student uses up their quota, this should be automatically reset.

## 8 THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- 8.1 Mr Bochen reported that the temporary pass kiosk has been well received. However, a situation arose whereby a student was issued a temporary pass but returned within the 24 hour period with their campus card and was refused access. Mr Dick noted that the system requires a specific period of time for the duration of the pass, and during that period the campus card is suspended. Due to 24/7 opening, the 24 hour pass was deemed most appropriate. The information on the kiosk, on the card and on the email all alert students to this condition of use. Mr Dick will recommend to library and security staff that they show discretion when refusing entry to a student without their temporary pass.
- 8.2 Mr Bochen said that students found that the long benches in 3<sup>rd</sup> Space were not comfortable for any period of time. The Chair said that the University and Students' Union are currently looking at the furniture situation in 3<sup>rd</sup> Space, and she will pass this comment to the relevant individuals.

**Action Chair**

## 9 APPRECIATION

As this would be the final meeting for Mr Mitchell, Ms Thwaites and Mr Bochen, the Chair expressed the Committee's appreciation for their valuable contribution over the past year.

## 10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 27 November 2016.

Further meeting dates are as follows:

8 March 2017

7 June 2017