



**SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 8, 2024 2:32-4:01 pm via Zoom

Attendees

Senators F. Andrew, E. Baniassad, L. Burr (Vice-Chair), J. Cool, D. Dahl, A. Esteves, M. Ho (Chair), S. Singh, R. Yada

Ex Officio E. Kwakkel, S. Parker

Guests R. Mazar, J. Mitchell

Regrets J. Al Rahmani, B. Bhandar, C. Dai, B. Gopaluni, X. T. Jiang, R. Ng, S. Razia

Senate Staff J. Iverson

Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement The meeting of the Senate Library Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 2:32 pm on 8 February 2024 by M. Ho, Chair. M. Ho gave a land acknowledgement.

Agenda *That the Senate Library Committee adopts the 8 February 2024 agenda.*

Moved: R. Yada
S. Singh
Carried.

Meeting Minutes *That the Senate Library Committee approves the 11 January 2024 meeting minutes.*

Moved: E. Baniassad
Seconded: L. Burr
Carried.

Business Arising None.

University Librarian Update S. Parker provided the monthly University Librarian update. Highlights included:

- The Library has met with the University’s finance team to discuss its needs. There will be impacts on the Library’s ability to operate if resource requirements aren’t met.
- S. Parker attended the annual Lunar New Year Dinner presented by Development and Alumni Engagement and the President. The Library hosted a table with the Wallace Chung family.

- An opening event for the Phil Lind Klondike Gold Rush and Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung collections is scheduled for April 19, 2024.
- The library management platform (LMP) replacement project continues. Jennifer Burns and S. Parker presented the project to the Information Technology Advisory Council (ITAC) and UBC Executive and it was approved for a request for proposals. Once there are proposals from vendors, the Library will assess the necessary resources.
- The Library received a presentation from Yan Li, conservator at Fudan University, on rare Asian materials. History and iSchool students attended the presentation, as did donors.
- S. Parker is participating in various searches, including ones for Deputy Provost, Dean of Dentistry, and Dean of Education.
- The search for a Deputy University Librarian to head the library at UBC Okanagan has concluded. An offer has been extended and negotiations are underway.
- S. Parker, Jennifer Burns, and Gail Murphy attended a meeting with officials from the Digital Research Alliance to help the alliance prepare for their next budget request to the Canadian government. CARL, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, is also helping.
- The Records Management Steering Committee recently met. UBC Archives is responsible for records management for all of the University's official records. The steering committee meets twice a year.
- S. Parker met one-to-one with President Bacon. She took him on a walking tour of the Barber Centre and they made plans for future library tours.

S. Parker responded to questions about the impacts of fluctuating exchange rates on the Library's budget, how contracts with publishers are managed, the connection between donations and collections budgets, and how the Library interacts with deans, especially with respect to curriculum-related resources.

Senate Committee Engagement with the Indigenous Strategic Plan

J. Iverson reminded the Committee of a recommendation made by the Senate Nominating Committee (SNC) in the 2020-23 Triennial Review that each standing committee consider how best to engage with the Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP) within the committee's area of responsibility and propose revisions to its terms of reference in support of such activities, as appropriate. Given the Committee often functions as an advisory committee for the Library itself, Committee leadership decided it would be helpful for members to better understand the work the Library has been doing with the ISP before any such report is submitted to the SNC, hence the discussion to follow. A report from the Committee is pending.

UBC Library and the Indigenous Strategic Plan

The guests introduced themselves: Julie Mitchell, Associate University Librarian for Teaching, Learning & Engagement; Rochelle Mazar, Assistant Director, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. J. Mitchell and R. Mazar are the Library's ISP co-leads.

J. Mitchell and R. Mazar presented, “UBC Library Indigenous Strategic Plan Implementation.” Key points were as follows:

- J. Mitchell explained the evolution of the Library’s ISP implementation group.
- R. Mazar introduced the Ɂwi7Ɂwa Library and explained it is the only Indigenous branch of an academic library in Canada. She said there may be the tendency to think the Library has ISP work covered thanks to the Ɂwi7Ɂwa Library and its staff, but one of the takeaways from the Library ISP Steering Team is that the ISP is everyone’s responsibility. It is essential for white settler Canadians and non-Indigenous colleagues to do the heavy lifting around decolonization and reconciliation.
- R. Mazar highlighted the librarians at the Ɂwi7Ɂwa Library and mentioned the new Indigenous Metadata Library and Indigenous Archivist positions.
- J. Mitchell presented an overview of ISP implementation, beginning with reading circles, followed by self-assessment, and then Indigenous reference training.
 - WRT reading circles, R. Mazar explained the Library focused on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action. The circles were by inspired by the work of Sajni Lacey at UBC Okanagan. 188 library employees participated in 30 sessions.
 - WRT self-assessment, J. Mitchell facilitated five sessions with the Library executive team and heads. Further sessions are now launching across the Library system.
 - WRT Indigenous reference training, R. Mazar explained the Library formed a working group with the goal of helping UBC librarians gain knowledge and cultural sensitivity in handling Indigenous reference question. Outputs include: live training sessions, recordings, slides, reference resources, practice scenarios, links to additional training.
- J. Mitchell highlighted other decolonization and reconciliation efforts, including:
 - securing funding for a Technical Services Library Assistant position to overlap with a senior staff member in the wi7Ɂwa Library and pass on institutional knowledge;
 - securing funding for a two-year term Indigenous Archivist to address the backlog of Indigenous archives currently in the Ɂwi7Ɂwa Library and Library Preservation and Archives (PARC) in a culturally appropriate way;
 - addressing access protocols for the Delgamuukw v. British Columbia Exhibit Archive with the Gitksan and Wet’suwet’en First Nations. Results of the Delgamuukw v. British Columbia trial are considered a turning point in treaty negotiations, land use policy, and the recognition of the legal concept of Aboriginal title.

- J. Mitchell mentioned the Foundations of Decolonization Series, a project among UVic, SFU, and UBC. This series addresses responsibilities outlined in Call to Action #57 and represents an opportunity to educate, inform, and inspire current and future work.
- R. Mazar recently submitted a letter of intent for the ISI Fund with the goal to continue the work the Library is doing.
- R. Mazar summarized next steps for the Library, including system-wide self-assessments, intent to action, performance measurement framework, and ongoing efforts to integrate the ISP into professional development and onboarding.

The guests answered questions from members about ISP focus and implementation progress compared to other units.

J. Mitchell and S. Parker acknowledged and thanked directors past and present of the First Nations House of Learning, as well as other Indigenous leaders at UBC.

Topics for Future Meetings

M. Ho solicited topics for future meetings. Members suggested:

- UBC Archives
- Capacity/collections of specific Library branches
- Increased Library access for students
- Open education resources

Next Meeting

Thursday 14 March 2024 2:30-4 pm

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.