Virginia Commonwealth University
VCU Libraries Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 10, 2022, 2:00-3:00 pm, Zoom

Attending
Jean Bailey, Matt Bogenschutz, Eric Campbell, Laurie Cathers, Rachel Cloutier, Ywone Edwards-Ingram, Catherine Ingrassia (*chair*), Inho "Richard" Jho, Chineme Onukwughara, Valerie Robnolt, Christy Tyndall, Anusha Vaddi, Dayanjan (Shanaka) Wijesinghe

Absent
Yunus Bidav, Leila Brinegar, Jennie Cook, Frank Gulla, Pratyush Narayan, Doug Pugh

VCU Libraries Staff
Laura Gariepy, Jimmy Ghaphery, Irene Herold, Jessica Kirschner, Tammy Sugarman, Antonia Vassar (*recording secretary*)

Business

Review and approval of agenda
At 2:02 pm, Chair Ingrassia opened the meeting and welcomed all members. The meeting agenda was approved as presented.

Review and approval of minutes from September 22, 2022
The minutes from September 22, 2022 were approved as presented.

Reports and Discussion

VCU Libraries Update (Dean Irene Herold)
Budget: Anticipating a 2-4% budget reduction for FY24. From the personnel/operating side of the budget that means a $250K to $500K reduction. This will result in placing a hold on newly identified needed positions and reviewing subscription and licensed content for possibility of non-renewal. As VCU goes into another fundraising campaign, it is hoped VCU Libraries are included in fundraising asks by other units since the library supports all students. This is something that VLAC members are encouraged to share with their faculty and deans.

Open Access and NIH data management and sharing policy:The new NIH data policy, in combination with the Nelson OSTP Memo, creates a need to help faculty understand how materials can be placed in repositories for compliance and to avoid costs. Nelson Memo requires materials from federally funded projects to be machine readable, calls for underlying data of published research conclusions to be made immediately available (see the slides for comparison document). There are some journals that might raise Author publishing costs (APCs) due to this, but there are many open alternatives to publication. A libguide (https://guides.library.vcu.edu/NIHDMSP) has

been created for VCU researchers on the new NIH Data Policy that goes into effect in January, 2023 (soft rollout expected). VCU Librarians stand ready to consult on these issues including library subject liaisons, Scholarly Communications Librarian Hillary Miller, and Research Data Librarian Nina Exner.

The January VLAC meeting will include presentation of Libraries draft Strategic Action Plan for feedback.

The StudyWell Initiative: Holistic Wellness for students (Laura Gariepy)

StudyWell is a messaging and events campaign focused on student well-being and holistic care. It started in fall of '21. Sample events include: whiteboard prompts and engagement, healthy snacks, therapy dogs, crafting activities, student peer advisors, postcards to mail home, and more. In 2021-2022, VCU Libraries and campus partners offered a total of 182 events with 2,664 attendees. Next steps include continuation of the campaign and a focus on holistic wellness in all student-focused services and operations including building hours. VCU Libraries is exploring additional funding streams to support the StudyWell Initiative.

VCU Libraries Statistics and Trends, 2018 - 2022

Engagement with services and spaces (Laura Gariepy)

Between 2018-2022 have seen increased savings through affordable course content and increased online engagement (chat, text, online resources, and collections). In-person building use, instruction, outreach, and events dipped during the pandemic but are back on the rise. Consultations didn't stay stable but are increasing.

Collections Expenditure Data for FY22 (Tammy Sugarman)

$13M collections budget. 77% of expenditures go to continuing resources (not one time costs) such as subscriptions, databases, and journals. Print journals are 1%, and print monographs are 3% of expenditures.

FY19-22 Electronic Usage (Jimmy Ghaphery)

Number of VCU Libraries search sessions is now above what it was in FY18, only a slight dip during the pandemic. A total of almost a million search sessions (not individual searches). Scholars Compass downloads are on an upward trend. Saw higher volume during pandemic. Over 3M total downloads since FY18. These verified downloads are coming from all over the world.

Total student savings through Open and Affordable Course Content since FY18 is over $6M, savings increasing with each fiscal year. About 64K students (duplicated headcount) have benefited from courses that incorporate Open and Affordable Course Content.

VCU results from statewide 2021 Course Materials Survey (Jessica Kirschner)

Survey administered by VIVA. Full survey report and analysis is available on VIVA website. Includes detailed exploration of equity and textbook costs for Virginia students.

VCU data is summary only due to IRB restrictions. Key results include: Only 20% of respondents are not worried at all about textbook costs. Compared with other students in Virginia, VCU students

are more worried about textbook costs and feel the impact of textbook costs more severely. Textbook costs also impact major choices like course selection and major/minor selection. Matches what we've found anecdotally. If the cost is the same, students prefer print over electronic access. Format choice often depends on course modality, subject/difficulty, or homework needs; disability influences choice of format.

VCUL will continue to offer support through Open & Affordable Course Content Initiative (consults, workshops, awards, and more). [VIVA Open Adopt Grants](#) currently accepting applications, due 12/7/22. Please share initiative announcements with your colleagues. Learn more at go.vcu.edu/textbooksavings

Announcements of upcoming events: 11/10/22 & 2/23/23
November 10, 2022 is the Cabell First Novelist Award for *The Final Revival of Opal and Nev*. February 23, 2023 is Black History Month Lecture; more information will be coming.

Informational Links
[VLAC charge and roster](#)
[VCUL News](#)
[VCUL Events](#)

Upcoming Events
 VLAC meets 2:00-3:00pm on the following dates:
- [January 26, 2023](#)
- [April 6, 2023](#)