

Library Council Meeting
May 28, 2020
10:00am-12:03pm
Microsoft Teams

Present: Donna Bourne-Tyson (Chair), Linda Clark (Secretary), Carol Richardson (Recording Secretary), Allison Fulford, Amanda Sparks, Ann Barrett, Anne Matthewman, Cassandra Larose, Courtney Bayne, David Michels, Deborah Hemming, Dominic Silvio, Elaine MacInnis, Erin MacPherson, Gail Fraser, Geoff Brown, Gwen MacNairn, Hannah Steeves, Helen Wojcik, Jackie Phinney, Jan Pelley, Janet Hathaway, Janice Slauenwhite, Joyline Makani, Karen Smith, Kirsten Huhn, Leah Unicombe, Linda Bedwell, Louise Gillis, Marc Comeau, Mark Lewis, Marlo MacKay, Melissa Rothfus, Michael Moosberger, Michelle Paon, Robin Parker, Roger Gillis, Sai Chua, Sandy Dwyer, Sarah Jane Dooley, Sarah Stevenson, Shelley McKibbon

Regrets: Creighton Barrett, Heather MacFadyen, James Boxall, Joe Wickens, Julie Marcoux, Lachlan MacLeod, Lindsay McNiff, Melissa Helwig

Absent: Mick Bottom

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as circulated.

2. Approval of the Minutes (from April 23 2020)

File in Brightspace [April 23 2020] 20200423_LC_MIN_DRAFTv1]

Motion: to approve the Minutes of the April 23, 2020 meeting as circulated.

S.J. Dooley / E. MacPherson

Carried

3. Business Arising (from the Minutes)

Dalhousie Libraries position on intellectual freedom – Further discussion and vote

The draft statement for the Dalhousie Libraries position on intellectual freedom is in BrightSpace under the February tab. It was noted, there is no poll set up to vote on this topic but at previous Library Council in-person meetings, members just raised their hands for a vote.

It was agreed to invite a guest speaker to a future Library Council meeting to discuss and answer any questions on this topic.

Motion: to approve the Dalhousie Libraries position on intellectual freedom and to review this document every three years for approval.

M. Lewis / G. MacNairn

Carried

4. Update on Strategic Priorities process for University and Dal Libraries – Sarah Stevenson

A copy of this document is in BrightSpace under the May tab.

Highlights of the presentation:

Attention has been given to reconfiguring the priorities, given the pandemic's affect on all University activities.

- High priorities include - support for online teaching (BrightSpace), sustainable video conferencing, electronic collections, technology services, library tutorials and modified services (content audits and improve usability), communications (for all services, supports, initiatives and events), community partnerships (associations/consortia and IB programs), Indigenous/African-Nova Scotian/International students (meet the needs of these groups who have particular challenges).
- Low priorities include - spaces (physical spaces: renovations, upgrades, specialty areas), assessment (in progress InSync reports), and in person events (postpone in-person exhibits/displays and move to online where possible), collaboration and new programs (delay on partnerships not related to Covid, includes GLAM collaborations and developing a new program in algorithmic literacy).
- Medium priorities include things not Covid-urgent but regarded as opportunities – services (service point experience, web accessibility and partnerships with other student services), instruction (assistance, diverse populations, Alma preparation, Academic technologies, community programming), collections (data driven, digitize unique items, geospatial data and services) and records management (university wide participation and promotion).
- It was noted, there are 160 Arts and Social Sciences streaming videos needing platforms and copyright assistance.
- Research across campus has been essentially on hold and may not be as urgent as some of the high priority items.
- Indigenous Services Librarian position is moving ahead.
- Professional Development without travel will continue.

Questions/Comments:

- *Students or users with disabilities should be added to the list of special groups.*
- *Does research demand vary across faculties?*
Yes, the university has been prioritizing Covid research and then time sensitive research involving living beings.
- *InSync is still of high importance as the data is aging.*
Yes, everything in our Strategic Directions is important and some things are more immediate than others.
- *In Business, research is very high since we have two research-focused programs and there is a lot of research at the Agricultural campus.*
We are not saying research is not a priority but we are trying to divide the lines between what would you bump off the high priority. Do you think the research should be elevated from the medium to the high? It isn't a reflection on the importance of the initiative because everything that made it into our strategic plan is extremely important but it's more of a gauge of the sense of urgency or what is tied most closely to keeping the university running and the students enrolling for the fall.
- *Under Tech & Services, does this cover academic software for online teaching in the fall?*
Yes it does.
- *The law faculty's focus was getting through the summer and then into the fall but one of the things that happened was the of loss of jobs for students. In response, the Faculty of*

Law has increased its summer hires of research assistants (Covid and non Covid research is continuing). For instance, this summer the research assistants requiring research training has exceeded 65 compared to 25 in the past. Workflows are continuing but not sure what to take off the list or put on the list, but just knowing research is high. Some stuff has become "ultra high". Just wanted to point this out.

As a local interest, this will be prioritized differently. It was noted that it was difficult trying to decide what needed to go in which list of priorities.

- *The Agricultural campus has always been busy with research but it has looked a lot different this summer. The campus was able to make some exceptions for people to return if it was time sensitive for field work and working with animals in person. The focus is definitely with the fall and teaching has been ramped up because of labs and working with the animals.*

If you have any more feedback, please send along to Sarah.

5. Indigenous SIFT 2019 report - Linda Bedwell

The data for this report is over a year old. The delay was the result of the departure of the previous Indigenous Services Librarian.

Highlights from the discussion:

- Some discomfort in doing this report but found it humbling and grateful for the experience.
- The recommendations come directly from what the students said (no filtering of any kind). This is a bit different than other SIFT reports.
- Glad this report has gone forward and that the Library is working on replacing the Indigenous Services Librarian. Whoever is the successful candidate for the position will find this report invaluable.
- We are all learning about things we should have known but didn't.
- Sometimes we use words that we don't realize are sensitive to others.

There is great support for this report and it was suggested to put this report on the agenda for an all staff meeting where Linda and a co-presenter (possibly Art Stevens) can bring some of the concerns expressed today to all staff.

Motion: to endorse the Indigenous SIFT 2019 report.

L. Bedwell / S.J. Dooley

Carried

6. Dean of Libraries report: COVID 19 update and 2020-21 Libraries budget update

Highlights from the presentation

Board Directives:

- Fall classes will be predominantly online, with limited exceptions.
- More investments to support faculty and students; thanks to the various ATS Teams for helping make this happen. Some money is being diverted to needs based bursaries rather than merit based bursaries.

HR Directives:

- On campus work will require following health directives because the physical, mental and emotional health of our students and employees is the priority.

- Minimizing the number of buildings that need to be opened including the Libraries. Discussions are ongoing on how to transition back to campus after the fall term. Staff may be encouraged to continue to work from home for the foreseeable future. Donna met with a number of key players to discuss how we are moving forward with reopening some of our services (curbside pickup). Only 25% of each unit's workforce or less can be back on campus. Some of this percentage may have to be shared with more than one unit in a building.
- Very pleased to hear from Associate Dean Research that the Libraries are valued similarly to a lab and are an important part of the university community. Access needs to be restored as soon as possible.

Return to Research Plan – VPRI Plan with Dalhousie Libraries Input:

Phase 1 (current phase) - virtual services, document delivery, laptop loans. Only staff who provide those services will be working on campus.

Phase 2 (after July 2) - curbside pickup (for now, Killam, Kellogg, Sexton, MacRae), plus virtual and Phase 1 services.

Phase 3 (after September 2) - limited library hours for computer and study space use, in person borrowing, book returns, staggered shifts for service points using existing staff and student assistants using the practice of social distancing. Many services can be delivered by staff working from home.

Phase 4 (after January 2021) - two shifts for service points, reduced hours, limited number of student assistants to cover evenings. Many staff could continue to work from home for part of the work week as operational requirements allow and preference dictates.

Please note that HR phases are not in sync with the VPRI's Return to Research Plan. For the HR Plan, Phase 1 is July, Phase 2 is September, Phase 3 is January 2021, and Phase 4 (date unknown) would be the return to full services in Libraries and online.

The past ten weeks:

- Dal Libraries team moved off campus
- Moved most Libraries operations online
- Assisted hundreds of faculty members to finish the term online
- Helped instructors to design Spring/Summer courses online
- Increased document delivery services
- Managed book returns for Dal and others
- Laptop loans

Thank you for your great work! This morning's PowerPoint presentation will be shared with staff in a "Town Hall" meeting on Monday, June 1.

Questions/Comments:

- *What would the two shifts for reduced hours look like?*
This is still requiring some discussion and we have lots of time to work out a schedule. We have evening and weekend supervisors already, so it will mean a slight modification to their hours, and the addition of other staff.
- *At the Academic Development Committee (ADC) meeting, there were questions from potential graduate students about whether it is worth their while to come to Halifax. A number of departments would like to say that curbside access will be available sooner than later and this could be assured by a date. Just want to reinforce its importance to get the word out sooner than later to help the grad students make up their minds.*

Will be doing some promotions as soon as we can for our June 8th start. We don't want to promote anything externally until we can inform the staff. Everything we are planning now needs to be able to be rolled back in short notice if a second waive hits.

- *There are increased costs now that we have to work more from home rather than in our offices. The T 2200 form, Declaration of Conditions of Employment, gives us an opportunity for Dalhousie employees to claim on income tax returns the extra costs incurred from working from home. There has been discussions in other faculties about reimbursing for costs of working from home. Is this something that has been thought about for the Libraries.*

There has been some discussions but the university is not offering any reimbursement programs right now. This would have to be discussed at a university wide level, not the Libraries level. Donna will share any developments on this matter.

Thanks to everyone for their input.

A meeting will be held on Monday at 9:30am for all staff to ask questions about the phases proposed. This will be the first of a regular weekly drop-in meeting, Monday mornings at 9:30. Everyone is welcome.

7. Highlights from the Senate Report – Jackie Phinney

The Senate Report is available on BrightSpace [May 28, 2020] 20200528_LC_RPT_SEN.

It was mentioned, the meeting opened with a moment of silence for the many tragedies that took place in Nova Scotia over the past two months.

8. Reports to Library Council

Questions or discussion topics from previously submitted reports:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| - Ann Barrett | - Janet Hathaway | - Michael Moosberger |
| - Anne Matthewman | - Janice Slauenwhite | - Michelle Paon |
| - Donna Bourne-Tyson | - Marc Comeau | - Sandra Dwyer |
| - Elaine MacInnis | - Marlo MacKay | - Sarah Stevenson |

Elaine MacInnis

There was mention in this report of the issue of censorship being done by other governments and whether this is a copyright issue that needs to be addressed.

This just relates to questions that were coming from faculty of agricultural regarding the viability of putting YouTube clips directly into courses rather than providing links.

Marc Comeau

There was mention of the use of Proctor; was there any member of your ATS Team who looked into the ethical surveillance and implications around proctoring software?

The ATS Team is aware of this product and are discouraging the use of it but some circumstances necessitated how students are approaching things. The need is there from the university. It was noted, this is a much larger conversation that has taken place at ADAC and Deans Council.

Everyone is well engaged across the University and aware we should be seeking alternative practise first and use this as a last effort. One exam has used it out of the 100's that have taken place. The ATS Team has worked closely with the Legal Counsel office and further work will be going on as we go forward in terms of the product to make sure it is secure and private.

Had a request for an eBook that we have in print and on reserve and didn't know if reserve items will be included in the curbside pickup or if the concept of a two hour loan is going into phase 2. What expectations are we trying to create for students and instructors for fall courses?

There will be an opportunity for students to borrow those materials in the phase where we will be open part of the time for students who have access to their local library. It does create an equity issue for those students attending classes remotely so will be looking at alternate options to support those students and their courses. It was noted, textbooks are more of an issue when trying to get multi-seat licenses. This has been a challenge and we encourage using alternate options. The book store is working very hard to get other options available.

9. Round table reports

Allison Fulford

- What are staff using if they need to meet with students one-on-one or in small groups? Are students using Teams? What software are people using for that purpose?
In Microsoft Teams, if you send the student a calendar invitation, you can specify a Microsoft Teams meeting and a link is created. The student accepts the invitation and they have the link to click on in their calendar. They may have to download software but overall, it is easier for the students to connect.

Amanda Sparks

- Working with Nancy Melvin to do some eReserve training with Access Services staff sometime in June in anticipation of eReserve requests.

Cassandra Larose

- Having high volumes of requests.
- Still learning a lot. New interesting things for the new format for the fall.

Courtney Bayne

- Big presentation with the University Records Committee.
- Working a lot more with the data retention in certain databases and the dal.ca website capturing the Dal publications eg. Dal News as they move to a new platform.
- Share drive clean ups, scanning etc.

Deborah Hemming

- Research Bootcamp launched on Monday with the first round of content. The content will continue to be released weekly between now and the end of June. There are almost 400 participants.

Erin MacPherson

- Did a session on Data Management Planning for Research Bootcamp.
- A lot of requests from faculty for textbooks for the fall and questions on copyright.
- Working on Live Help as Chair (term ends at the end of August) eg. finishing Annual Report, scheduling, hiring of interns etc. Live Help has been a big thing this year. Slowed down a little bit but it's ongoing.

Geoff Brown

- The Intro to Psych launched successfully for the Spring term
<https://digitaleditions.library.dal.ca/intropsychneuro/>. Promotions will be soft for now and more heavily when it is a complete package.

Gwen MacNairn

- Started writing a summary of GIS and Data Services that goes into Elaine's monthly report. It was noted, Jennifer Strang has created a GIS dashboard - a visualization for Nova Scotia COVID Data <https://dalspatial.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f783d6c1568b4c40baa3de148f66810c>
- Would like to acknowledge the number of people who participated and contributed to the search for the Indigenous Services Librarian. Thank you to all. It was a good experience and I look forward to working with the successful candidate.

Jackie Phinney

- Seeing more medical students as they try and get their projects started.
- Plans are underway for a library orientation for the New Brunswick residents sometime in June and into July. Collaborates with the hospital librarians to do that work.
- Preparing materials for two Bootcamp sessions.
- Will be giving a webinar for the Faculty of Medicine Continuing Professional Development series.

Joyline Makani

- The Academic Leadership course is launching in June. Joyline is a proud instructor for this course.
- Is the principal investigator for the new Covid 19 research project and is waiting for ethics approval. Will be looking for an RA for this project which will be funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

Karen Smith

- The Academic Development Committee (ADC) is meeting weekly and there is lots of homework in between meetings.
- Been busy trying to figure out how to run a national AGM.
- Some of Joyline's documentation is being used in training sessions for civil servants in the Nova Scotia government.

Michelle Paon

- Jason Lee from the Sexton Library has graduated from the School of Information Management with an MLIS and received the Special Libraries Association award.

Robin Parker

- The Knowledge Synthesis Interest Group from the Canadian Health Libraries Association is hosting a journal club looking at a scoping review article on Indigenous knowledge translation in Health Libraries. Anyone who is interested can join (a message was sent out to Library Council last week).
- The Librarian Research Institute plans on having an informal chat about research planning and progress. An announcement will be sent out to the participants.
- Doing preparations for Research Bootcamp.

Roger Gillis

- Very busy with copyright questions - lots of new complex questions that have never been seen before. Thanks for your patience as we work through some of these issues.
- Just finished up a newly designed Research Bootcamp module on copyright. This will be opening up on June 1. My course features a number of short H5P modules (great, "bite-sized" interactive videos for learning about copyright concepts, from the Opening up Copyright series - <https://sites.library.ualberta.ca/copyright/>). Thanks to Deborah for all her work in organizing Research Bootcamp!

- On the liaison side, starting to hear from more faculty preparing for the fall. Lots of eBook requests coming in.

Sarah Jane Dooley

- Janet Music from the School of Information Management has said practicums will go ahead in 2021. Representatives from the School of Information Management will speak at the June Library Council meeting on the benefits of having a practicum student.

Sarah Stevenson

- Shout out to Melissa Helwig and the group that is leading the BrightSpace show and tell on June 5. Looking forward to the session.

Shelley McKibbon

- Hearing from Physio therapy students for meetings in the summer because they don't have job placements for the summer. We are seeing students at different times than we normally expect.

10. Any Other Business

- Dr. Teri Balsler will no longer be serving as Dalhousie's Provost and Vice-President Academic as of May 27, 2020. Dr. Balsler will take up the role as full professor in the Department of Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences in the Faculty of Agriculture, with a cross appointment in the College of Sustainability. She will be on administrative leave until December 31, 2020.
- A suggestion for the June Library Council meeting: Wondering how the 5 year terms of the different Associate Deans mesh with going forward for sustainability planning and when different terms end and how they are dove-tailed with each other and if someone served two consecutive terms are they eligible to be an Associate Dean of something else so that it rotates as they continue to be the Head. When a faculty member is hired after July 1 it would be nice to know that the counting can be coordinated so its more sustainable going forward (not sure if we ever knew when the start and end date is of an Associate Dean). This topic will be added to the Library Council meeting agenda in June.

No other business, meeting adjourned at 12:03pm.

W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library | AUL Scholarly Communications
Highlights for Library Council, May 2020

Kellogg Health Sciences Library:

- **Scanning Reserve Content for Med 1s:** There were a number of items on print Reserve in the Kellogg that were required by Med1s to study from for their end of term exams. Many thanks to Joe Wickens who went in and did some rush scanning so these materials could be posted to Brightspace in a timely fashion.
- **Postponed Qualifying Exams and Proxy and Brightspace Access:** A number of graduating classes in health programs have had their qualifying exams postponed to fall 2020 (Nurse Practitioners, Med4s, Medical Residents and Pharmacy students are the ones we are aware of so far). We have had requests from two groups to extend their access to library resources via the proxy. David has been adding these lists of students in to the proxy database manually. Med4's have need of content that is Brightspace (recorded lectures) so ATS will be extending an existing course to allow them to continue to access that material.
- **Training Session on Beyond PubMed:** Jackie Phinney and Melissa Helwig adapted their bootcamp session "Beyond PubMed" and provided a session for Kellogg Access and Resources staff.
- **E-Book Refresh on LibGuides:** Melissa Helwig is leading a project to refresh the ebook listings on Kellogg LibGuides. She has developed a plan and led staff training on finding appropriate new ebook content and best practice techniques for updating LibGuides.
- **Kellogg Meetings:** Several Kellogg Virtual Coffee Breaks have been held, including quizzes and contest thanks to the ingenious Kellogg Quiz Mistresses. KLMG has also continued to meet on a weekly basis.
- **Library Leadership in Systematic Review webinar:** Robin Parker was a panelist on a webinar offered by Covidence. The **Library Leadership in Systematic Review** webinar brought together library peers to share tools and techniques to optimize SR research and education support in new, remote environments. The webinar took place Thursday, May 7th.
- **New publication:** Melissa Helwig has a new publication : Isenor JE, Helwig M, Weale MB, Bowles SK. Evaluation of the experiences and needs of users of a drug information resources website. J Med Libr Assoc. 2020 Apr;108(2):270-277. doi: 10.5195/jmla.2020.446. Epub 2020 Apr 1. PMID: 32256238; PMCID: PMC7069831.
- **Bootcamp sessions:** A number of Bootcamp sessions are being offered with Kellogg Librarians as instructors in health and general topics:
 - Citation Management - Shelley McKibbon
 - Searching PubMed – Jackie Phinney
 - Searching for Grey Literature – Robin Parker and Hannah Steeves
 - Beyond PubMed – Jackie Phinney
 - Evidence Synthesis – Robin Parker
 - Exploring steps of systematic reviews – Robin Parker

Scholarly Communications:

- **Training on Transcription:** Geoff has been working on a transcription project with the Raddall collection and has been training staff to do transcriptions from home.

- **Bootcamp sessions:** A number of Bootcamp sessions are being offered in scholarly communications areas:
 - Getting Started with Data Management Planning – Erin MacPherson
 - Introduction to Conference Posters - Deborah Hemming
 - Copyright and Curriculum – Roger Gillis
 - Open Access and predatory publishers – Melissa Rothfus

- **Joint CAUL-COPPUL webinar: Beyond Checklists: Fostering Scholarly Publishing Literacy to Avoid Deceptive Publishers** | presenter: Melissa Rothfus |  [Video](#) |  [Slides](#)

- A meeting was held with Andrew Rau-Chaplin (CS) and Claudia Jimenez (Dal Analytics) regarding Bibliometrics, rankings, university and faculty Dashboards, SciVal and UNIWeb data.

- A meeting was held with Kirk Feindel, Project Manager Core Facilities, and Erin MacPherson, Donna Bourne-Tyson and myself regarding data management services offered by the Dalhousie Libraries, as well as equipment registration options using UNIWeb.

- Geoff Brown will be on sabbatical leave July – December 2020 so preparations are underway for managing areas under his responsibility.

- UNIWeb Annual Report training, testing and troubleshooting activities are ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Barrett

Report to Library Council

Anne Matthewman – May 2020

AD Learning and Teaching

ADAC

ADAC met for several weeks on a weekly basis but has just now moved to a bi-weekly format. Much of the focus recently has been on the online format for spring and summer courses and the committee is now also considering the delivery of fall online courses. Several groups are involved in this discussion and take part in the meetings – CLT, ATS, Registrar’s Office, ITS, and Student Services. We have also been hearing from the University-wide teams concerned with ongoing teaching and recruitment– so far we have had presentations from Curriculum Development, Academic Quality, and Recruitment Strategy.

CLT has now created a Brightspace page for all faculty called “Going Online Together” and there will be a weekly newsletter from CLT, the libraries, and ATS supporting ideas and tips for online teaching. CLT will also be offering a number of webinars in June related to online teaching. New Academic Staff Orientation and TA day will be held virtually as well. The current Remote Teaching Site is going to be relaunched as dal.ca/onlineteaching and will service as a depository of resources supporting online teaching. ITS is currently working on the creation of virtual labs.

Academic Integrity Week:

I have been the Libraries’ representative on the planning team for this new project. A series of synchronous modules will be run during the week of June 8-12 and again sometime in September. The sessions will also be recorded. Sessions will be oriented to instructors and will include modules on the academic integrity process, creative ways of assessment to minimize plagiarism in the online environment, technology and tools related to academic integrity, library tools for students, and tips from the Writing Centre.

Team:

Members of the Learning and Teaching team continue to be busy. Major projects include Research Bootcamp which is being delivered via Brightspace and which has had an excellent registration. Deborah Hemming has spearheaded this project. We are also working on a Libraries module for the upcoming Academic Integrity Week. Our module will be on Thursdays, June 11th. Deborah Hemmings and I coordinated with the Bissett Student Centre on the Libraries module in the Start on Track programme which will be running this summer. It was not necessary to change the previous videos and quiz but we did add textual information stressing that the Libraries are offering virtual services. Other team projects include planning a virtual support session on using Brightspace for librarians, fielding data questions, liaising with the EAP programme, and working with CLT.

Dunn Law Library

We have been having regular staff meetings in an effort to keep in touch and to keep the library running smoothly. All of our staff have been working on various projects from home, but we value the time together in staff meetings. Like other units, we have been working with the law school on the first phase of return to work in July. Additionally, we are hoping to be able to offer a curbside pickup service and are currently working out a procedure and staffing for that.

Planning for both online teaching and library services in the fall is well underway. David Michel's is part of the law school's team on instruction and technology. That team held a session with all faculty recently to discuss resources and training opportunities, support for course design, and differing approaches for upper year and first year courses. Our librarians will be involved again in teaching the first year Legal Writing and Research class.

Faculty RAs have been working for a few weeks now and our librarians are fielding reference questions from them. Mark Lewis and Hannah Steeves prepared and taught sessions for the pre-law programme for the IB&M group. Hannah has also prepared sessions for Research Bootcamp.

Our summer student, Annalise Benoit, started in May and she is working with Hannah on populating BePress and creating a corresponding LibGuide. She will also be working with Professor Metallic on her indigenous law collection.

I attended interviews for the new Director for the IB&M programme and also the interviews for the Indigenous Services Librarian.

Lisa Drew and I prepared two budget scenarios for the year and submitted them to the Law School's Director of Finance.

Library Council Update – Dean of Libraries Selected May 2020 Highlights

Starting my update again this month with an acknowledgement of gratitude to all Library Council members – everyone continues to make important contributions in a new and time-sensitive environment. Your hard work and flexibility are greatly appreciated.

During our meeting, I will be sharing some University principles and preliminary Libraries plans for a return to campus, and how we can best continue to meet the teaching, learning and research needs of the University while keeping staff and patrons safe. There have been many conversations among CARL and CAUL libraries, informed by best practices and research. SLT has been working on short and long-term service delivery plans and financial modeling for various scenarios, which will also be discussed during this and the June Library Council meetings. I look forward to the conversation with Library Council members and then all members of staff.

In addition to the now weekly meetings for DRAC, Deans' Council, the Academic Quality Team, SLT, CARL, and other regular meetings, this is the beginning of annual meeting and conference season. As you know most of the conferences are cancelled but bylaws require annual meetings, so I've been involved in planning and attending CARL, CAUL, IATUL, APLA, and University Club AGMs. The NDRIO Board has now met three times and the committees are starting to meet; I am on the Governance and HR committees. Next week I'm chairing a webinar for the Association of Commonwealth Universities about COVID-19 and research libraries. We are planning to start a series of townhall meetings for all Libraries staff and I welcome your suggestions on the frequency for these. Some CARL libraries are holding these weekly as drop-in sessions.

AD Library Services & Head, MacRae Library
Report for Library Council
May 2020

Library Services

Access Services – Sandy and the Managers of Access Services have been busy working on developing protocols and a process for Contactless Curbside Pickup. Sandy has worked with John Miffen to create a form for the requests and Marlo has been working on the promotional side of this service. We have ramped up the development of this service in response to an increased number of requests for access to items in our print collections that are not available electronically. This service will be offered to Dalhousie & King’s students, staff and faculty for items currently In Library and only for those items that are not available as an eBook, or where the need cannot be met through scanning of part of the work. Further details will be shared with everyone for discussion.

Assessment – Linda spoke to the Indigenous SIFT report at the April 27th SLT meeting and continues to work on Insync reports for SLT members and comparisons to other institutions. She is considering methods for assessing services in the fall as well as gathering library-related student response data from a Student Affairs Covid-19 survey. She attended an online assessment panel hosted by Ithaka who has created Covid-19 surveys for students and faculty.

Copyright – I’d like to officially welcome Cassandra Larose to the role of Copyright Services Coordinator (Temporary assignment). She is filling in during Lachlan’s 6-month parental leave and will sit on Library Council during her term in the role. Roger has been working closely with Cassandra and her training is ongoing. The workflow continues to be heavy, with increased activity responding to film and video queries precipitated by the requests that have gone out from liaisons to faculty requesting a list of films that they normally show in class. Roger and Cassandra also met recently with the primary Reserve contacts to determine what additional copyright training the Reserves staff might need to prepare for the Fall term going online. They are in the process of arranging that training session now.

Document Delivery – Document Delivery activity continues to be steady. Joe reported that, on average, he’s filling about 45 – 50 scanning requests per day for the Killam and 30 - 35 per day for the Kellogg. Scanning requests are also being processed at Sexton and MacRae. There is a substantial increase in lending requests due to the number of RapidILL requests we are now receiving. Joe also noted that borrowing has increased to almost normal levels and staff are being kept busy responding to user's questions and requests.

Sandy and I will be meeting with Joe and Linda to discuss the correlation between curbside pickup and docdel to ensure all our processes and messaging are aligned.

The annual CAUL Document Delivery Group meeting was held via MS Teams on the 26th and the Relais User Group (eastern Canada) meeting has been scheduled for early June.

GIS & Data Services – The license for using all ArcGIS software products has been renewed for 20/21. It comes with five complimentary registrations to attend a large international conference, normally held in San Diego, in July. We usually send one person and they bring back valuable information and insights. This year the conference will be held virtually, and our license will support an unlimited number of attendees. In addition to all members of the GIS Team, we have invited several Dalhousie faculty, staff and students to attend with us. Louise and Choi have been busy answering data questions. Choi’s expertise in using SAS with the PCCF+ (Postal Code Conversion File) has been notably advantageous.

There have been seven requests since March, most of them supporting health research projects. We are also promoting two Canadian sources for answering COVID data questions. If you have not yet seen the StatCan data portal for COVID-19, Louise has added it to the Data & Statistics LibGuide. It features data tables, articles and relevant releases from *The Daily* on the Economy, Labour, Health and Society. It is on the StatCan website: <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/covid19> . If you'd like to see just the Nova Scotia COVID data, Jen has developed a local dashboard:

<https://dalspatial.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f783d6c1568b4c40baa3de148f66810c>

Indigenous Services – Thank you to all those who attended the recent presentations by candidates for the position of Indigenous Services Librarian. We look forward to a successful outcome to this search process. We were invited by the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund to participate in their virtual June event to celebrate Indigenous History Month. With input from Donna and Marlo I prepared a brief narrated slide show of highlights of our events promoting indigenous history and knowledge this year.

LIPCC – The Committee met to discuss a revised Intern Enrichment program. It was felt that some direction from SLT on priorities for the internships would help in the development of this year's enrichment program. A list of potential projects for remote work was populated by SLT members and is being shared with LIPCC. Sarah S. recently updated the original list, assigning strategic goals and priority levels based on our Bridge Strategic Plan with a COVID-19 lense. The Committee is also exploring options for the Summershine event and the traditional blog post profiles we normally do highlighting our interns.

LiveHelp – Changes have been made to the Novanet LiveHelp schedule for the summer. It would normally close for the summer on June 19th. However, it will now be offered as a continuous service into the fall, with summer hours continuing until mid September. Thank you to all our LiveHelpers for coming forward to continue to offer this important service. Sarah Jane is also working with Mike Duggan on a LiveHelp widget to be used in Brightspace.

MacRae Library

Videos for Courses – Erin has been working with faculty and instructors on the Ag Campus to identify films and videos they normally use in class. As with all the libraries, we will be using this information to evaluate the current offerings of streaming services. One particular issue that has been identified is that some content (i.e. YouTube) is banned in certain countries and we are working with the Copyright staff on strategies for addressing this.

Seed Library – “Growing Together Apart” seed kits have been distributed amongst the DalAC community as well as to organizations in the local community as part of our goals to promote food literacy. Some kits are also going to Halifax where they will form part of an initiative with the Office of Sustainability. Look for more information to come. Jolene has also been working on a video on seed saving to contribute to an initiative from Extended Learning to provide learning opportunities for the community. Stay tuned!

Other Meetings & Events

- I attended the Faculty Awards for the Faculty of Agriculture which were presented via a MS Teams event this year.
- I have been added to the Academic Leaders group for the Faculty of Agriculture. We are currently meeting weekly to address issues related to the move to online learning for the Fall.

- I attended both the Dalhousie-wide Community Checkin, as well as the one for the Agricultural Campus.
- I attended 2 sessions of OLA's Annual Institute on the Library as Place – Conversation Series:
 - Curbside Pickup at Academic Libraries (May 15)
 - Curbside Pickup at Academic Libraries: Continuing the Conversation (May 22)

Report to Library Council
Janice Slauenwhite
Manager, Financial & Physical Resources
May 2020

Financial

- Working on draft budget

Facilities

- Have made arrangements with Plant Care to have someone come into the Killam periodically to look after the plants in the atrium
- With Sandy Dwyer, I am working on a draft plan for Libraries' staff to gradually return to campus following directives from HR and OH&S. Once complete the draft will be shared with SLT for discussion and feedback before being shared with all staff.

Other

- Attending weekly meetings of SLT
- Attended candidate presentations for the Indigenous Services Librarian position
- Attended casual web time entry system kick-off meeting for the Kellogg, MacRae and Sexton libraries
- Attended a workshop entitled The Art of Delegation
- Attended an Academic HR Forum meeting
- Attended the President's community check-in event on April 30th
- Working on a project for Archives transcribing diaries of Thomas Raddall

Academic Technology Services Report

Marc Comeau - Director, ATS

- We've been working through course builds and summer support over the last few weeks. There's lots to do to support our summer courses.
- Inquiries around the fall have risen dramatically as faculty prepare. It's presenting a lot of challenges for us in many different ways. The increase in demands are causing bottlenecks in our processes that had worked smoothly before.
- We're working on a plan for Fall support. In many ways it will be a scaling up of our summer support efforts, but there are some key areas where we need to make adjustments. That planning is ongoing right now with CLT.
- To add to the complexity of the situation, our tools are changing as we go. This is a positive as new features are coming out, but it's creating stale perspectives. If anyone is working with people who are not happy with the communications tools they've been using so far (Teams, Collaborate) and are looking to other tools like Zoom to teach, we would suggest they speak to James Wilson, our VC coordinator to discuss options. Teams has a few new features that makes things better and even has a completely different mode (Teams Live Events) that we used to support the President's Town Hall meeting. We're using this to solve a problem for one of our large first year classes, but it's a very new option that's only been available less than two months. As we march towards September, the landscape will continue to evolve so we encourage those who have problems to reach out to us.
- As others around the University are starting to consider what it might look like to return to our old physical spaces, we're doing the same on a service by service basis. Most notably, AV support due to the need that faculties have for recording spaces. There are a lot of factors to consider and that team is just starting to unpack some of those now.
- I'll be participating in a panel during Academic Integrity Week to speak about our virtual proctoring system. There will be more details to come for those interested.
- We're working with the Bookstore on an LMS integration that will help to abstract student information away from the publishers. This is work that will be beneficial for the bookstore, for us, for faculty and for the students.
- There's a lot of work happening in the background on the software we distribute for academic purposes. We've been working with ITS to allow it to be virtualized which will allow students to use it from anywhere on any platform, but we're also working on other approaches to ensure we have options should be find challenges along the way.
- The Future of Teaching and Learning thought paper was submitted late last month. It will eventually be released for all to see along with the other thought papers. There was interest in seeing the co-leads continue on supporting efforts for the strategic plan should they choose to. I hope the opportunity will present itself as the work was very engaging, but what that looks like remains to be seen.
- I've been invited to join the Academic Quality Team. I've been to one meeting so far and it's proving to be a very productive group to help work through our collective challenges.

Report to Library Council from Marlo MacKay, Communications Coordinator

April 24-May 28, 2020

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- Met with Elaine and Michelle to discuss resources promotions
- Met with some Archives staff and co-chair Sarah Stevenson to discuss displays for Killam's 50th anniversary
- Attended three presentations by candidates for the position of Indigenous Services Librarian
- Attended regular COVID-19 updates by C&M for communications personnel
- Compiled and submitted Dal Libraries update for APLA newsletter
- Worked on Research Bootcamp promotions
- Attended weekly SLT meetings
- Wrote Dal Reads 2019/20 wrap-up report for the President's Office
- Joined a communications sub-committee of the Academic Quality Team, attended weekly meetings, and prepared various communications pieces for this Team (ongoing work)
- Attended an AQT meeting to discuss the communications strategy
- Met with personnel from ATS and CLT to discuss the AQT comms sub-committee
- Met with the Health & Wellness committee
- Created a proposal for the creation of an ATS page on libraries.dal.ca and follow-up meetings
- Worked on promotions for Curbside Pickup service
- Drafted script and selected images for Dal's contribution to a Downie Wenjack Foundation video

Report to Library Council

May 28, 2020

Submitted by Michelle Paon, Associate Dean Resources & Head of Sexton Library

Associate Dean Resources

Collections Budget and US Dollar Reconciliation: Special thanks to Heather MacFadyen, who graciously agreed to prepare the 2020-21 Libraries collections budget and the US dollar reconciliation request, the latter of which was submitted to Financial Services in early May. In the past few years, confirmation of the reconciliation amount has arrived in late summer or early fall, so it may be a number of months before we receive a response.

The Scholarly Resources Management Group met on May 22nd. The agenda included discussions related to the 2019-20 year-end collection budget, streaming video needs, and questions related to standing order cancellations. The group also considered revisions to the library collection assessment guidelines and template. As soon as the final edits on these two documents are complete, we will submit them to Library Council.

Recently SRMG members drafted a one-page Cost-sharing agreement/MOU template (NAS location: O:\Libraries - Resources & Discovery\Resources\Forms). In the past, there have been several instances in which the Dal Libraries has shared the cost of a library resource/subscription with a faculty or department. Often such arrangements were made on an ad hoc basis, but faculty/staff turnover could sometimes result in loss of institutional memory about the terms of an agreement. The template will allow Heads and liaisons to record the details of such arrangements for future reference.

Streaming videos: In anticipation of faculty film-content needs for upcoming courses, the Resources team is exploring streaming video sources and consulting with CAUL colleagues about available products. No single product includes all of the content needed, so we will likely have to license one or two vendor products, as well as purchase individual streaming licenses for some film titles. The Resources team is considering a range of products, two of which are currently on trial: [Academic Video Online \(AVON\)](#), which is available until June 30th and [Films on Demand](#), which is available until August 6th. Each Library Head is compiling the film titles/clips needed by professors so that we can identify potential streaming video distributors, license options, and pricing.

Responding to eBook Requests - Handout and Follow-up information

After consultations with Document Delivery, Course Reserves, and Copyright, the Resources team coordinated the preparation and distribution to liaisons of a handout that outlines a step-by-step process for addressing patron requests for ebooks. Subsequently after email correspondence with Gwen MacNairn, I will be sending to liaisons follow-up information on two topics: selecting DRM-free unlimited ebook licenses, and checking the number of ebook seats in Primo/Novanet (eg. 1-user, 3-user, unlimited users).

The Resources team recently met with ProQuest representatives to discuss several offers. They were related to potential upgrades to ebook licenses, and potential ebook purchases to match high usage print titles in the Libraries' collections.

Standing Orders

Resources staff have collated and sent lists of standing orders to Library Heads to have liaisons/subject selectors confirm the titles that can be cancelled. After the decisions have been made, staff will take steps to cancel orders with the vendors and in Aleph, disencumber funds, close holdings, etc.

Print Serials Subscriptions

Resources staff are compiling lists of print-only serial subscriptions and checking them in EBSCO to see which subscriptions can potentially be moved to online (or print+online).

Novanet DDA

Due to the new ProQuest ebook agreement, as of April 1st the Novanet DDA ebook pool has increased from 30,000+ ebooks to more than 80,000 ebooks. Ebooks are available under short-term loans (STL), but some are also available under an "Access-to-Own" (ATO) model. The benefit of the latter is that it includes titles from a range of publishers new to the Novanet DDA (eg. University of Toronto Press, Yale University Press), and it provides greater access to frontlist titles. During the month of April, we have already begun to see higher Dal usage as patrons access the more recently-published content.

Alma migration: Resources staff are working on a variety of Acquisition/Serial and Cataloguing pre-migration projects sent to us by the Alma Working Groups.

Head - Sexton Library

- The Sexton Library team has met three times to share information and discuss library initiatives.
- The Sexton Library liaisons and I reviewed the standing orders. All listings will be cancelled and titles ordered as needed.
- The Sexton liaisons compiled the course-related film/video requests from the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Architecture & Planning.
- We're thrilled to announce that Sexton Evening & Weekend Supervisor Jason Lee has graduated from the Dalhousie School of Information Management with a Master of Library & Information Studies degree. Congratulations and well done, Jason!

I attended the following select meetings:

- Senior Leadership Team meetings (5); Library Council
- Meetings with: Kirsten Huhn and Gail Fraser; and with full Resources team.
- Faculty of Graduate Studies Council (2); FGS Academic Programs & Curriculum Committee
- Indigenous Services Librarian presentations (3)
- Dal Community Check-In online

Oceanography Liaison:

- Prepared library collection assessment for OCEA 4000.
- Responded to research question from OCEA graduate student - marine microbial topic.
- Participated in Killam Library liaisons' meeting.
- As NSIS Librarian, I prepared the NSIS Librarian annual report and participated in email discussions regarding options for the Annual General Meeting and the Fall lecture series.

Report to Library Council
Sandy Dwyer
Director, Libraries HR & Access Services
May 2020

Libraries HR Highlights

The System Developer (SIT2) search for ATS is still in the reference checking stage.

We are in the process of finalizing the posting for a SIT1 term position (12 months) to temporarily fill the vacancy created with Mike Duggan's recent promotion to the position of Instructional Technologies Architect in ATS.

Lydia Hunsberger will begin a four month temporary position as an Archives Assistant beginning on June 1, 2020. Lydia has been hired to work on the LGBTQ Seniors Archive Project.

Interviews for the Indigenous Services Librarian took place on April 27th, April 30th, and May 4th.

On April 30th I took part in the University's Community Check-in.

On Friday May 1st I participated in the workshop, "Virtual Onboarding: Support in the Face of Challenge", facilitated by Angela MacMaster and Keerthi Baruah from Talent Management.

On May 7th I participated in the workshop, "Managing Performance Virtually", facilitated by Sundari Pashupathinathan and Firas Zaytoun from HR.

I have continued to attend Human Resources Integration Team meetings (these have now moved to every two weeks). Information from these meetings is shared with the Senior Leadership Team, Managers and staff as appropriate. I continue to provide HR support and answer HR related questions as they arise from members of the Dalhousie Libraries. Continue to participate in weekly meetings with SLT and with the Access Services Managers.

I am currently working, with Janice Slauenwhite, on drafting a plan for the gradual return to campus of Libraries' staff following the directives from HR and OH&S. This draft will then be shared with SLT for their discussion and input before it gets shared with all staff.

The Health & Wellness Committee submitted a workplace wellness grant application at the end of February. The goal of our grant application entitled, "Wellness While Working", was to provide staff with methods of being active while performing their daily duties, by purchasing and making available, under the desk exercise pedal machines and standing desk extenders. With the grant money we would be able to purchase 10 of each. The staff would be able to borrow the under desk exercise pedal machines so that they may "bike" while performing tasks at their workstations. Standing desk extenders would be made available for staff to use either with their workstation or to create a station within their unit that they could take turns moving to throughout the day to allow them to alternate between sitting and standing. At this time, as the Libraries in-kind contribution, one treadmill would be purchased, as a pilot, and placed in a public area of the Killam Library. The intention would be to encourage staff and library users to take a stress break. Individuals would be able to "sign out" the treadmill for 15 minutes at a time. The treadmill would have a place where a book could be placed for reading while they walk. We are pleased to announce that our workplace wellness grant application for Wellness While Working has been selected for funding in the amount of \$1379.

Spring Into Action wrapped up this past Sunday. Thank you to all who participated in the 6 week exercise/wellness program.

Alma Implementation Steering Committee – Update #1

Along with representatives from each of the Novanet institutions, I am on the Alma Implementation Steering Committee. We are currently meeting monthly to discuss various aspects of the implementation, which includes ensuring that each institution's needs are being considered. The frequency of our meetings will change to bi-weekly or weekly, depending on the demands of the project. Thanks to Kirsten Huhn who is my alternate on the committee.

The steering committee members are responsible for representing the interests of each our libraries and for providing communication and coordination between the implementation teams and our organizations. We are currently working our way through the Alma Essentials training course.

In addition to the steering committee, there are a number of working groups. Thank you to the Dal Libraries staff who have volunteered to serve on these working groups, which are listed here:

- Acquisitions/Serials/ERM
- Analytics/Reporting
- Data Migration
- Discovery
- Fulfillment/Access/Resource Sharing
- Metadata/Cataloguing
- New Functionality
- 3rd Party Systems Integration
- Training/Documentation

The Fulfillment, Acquisitions, and Metadata working groups have been convened because they are needed to help with the database cleanup jobs which are now underway. Other working groups will begin their work as we move further along the implementation process.

The actual Alma implementation is still a year away, but there is a lot of work we can be and are doing now. The following is a list of database cleanup jobs that staff are currently performing:

- Barcodes that cannot be searched or scanned in Aleph (or Alma) because they contain symbols, spaces and other oddities.
- Collections with multiple item statuses — need to be examined and edited so there is one collection per item status.
- Records with no collection code.
- Item Process Status report to determine what process statuses are obsolete.
- Unclosed orders.

These are some of the upcoming database clean-up tasks that we will be engaging in:

- Electronic/print records split
- Suppressed records clean up
- Local note fields in bib records
- Orphan bib, holding, and item records

- Collection codes with few or new items
- Acquisitions clean-up

If you have suggestions for other database clean-up projects, please send your suggestions along to me.

As you may have heard, Novanet Day, which was scheduled for May 21, has been cancelled. Bill and the Novanet team are currently exploring their options and we look forward to an update.

If you have not read the Alma implementation blog that Bill is writing on the Novanet site, I encourage you to give it a read. It contains thorough updates about what's been done so far and what is to come. You can access the Alma blog by logging in to the "Members" section of the Novanet website. I would also encourage you to look at other Alma resources that are available on the Novanet site.

Library Council Report: 28 May 2020

AD Planning | Head of Killam: Sarah Stevenson

AD Planning

Bridge Strategic Plan – COVID revisions:

With input from the other members of the Senior Leadership Team, we have revisited the Bridge Strategic Plan and assessed it in light of our current environment with Covid-19. This will be part of our agenda at the May Library Council meeting.

ISL candidates: I attended all three of the ISL candidate presentations. Additionally, each candidate had a group meeting with me, Elaine MacInnis and Donna Bourne-Tyson. Thank you to the Search Committee for their work on this competition, and especially for arranging the online presentations. It has been a challenging time to be engaged in a nation-wide hiring process.

Accessibility: The April meeting of the Dal Accessibility Advisory Committee was cancelled as most of the members were fully engaged with COVID-19 response work. The May meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of May 25. In the meantime I attended the following related webinars:

Telling the Story: Better Accessibility Statements with ASPIRE April 29 (Daisy.org)

Publishing, accessibility, W3C standards – where are we and how did we get here? May 6. (Daisy.org)

Navigating Accessibility to Support All Library Users. May 7 (ARCL-Choice)

Head of Killam

Virtual Coffee breaks: The Killam Reference & Research librarians and Copyright Coordinator, have been having weekly drop-in virtual coffee breaks. This has primarily been ‘check-in/social time’ for Killam-based librarians. As we move toward re-opening of the campus these conversations may become more focussed discussions.

Indigenous Community Space (Halifax): The Killam liaisons have continued to evaluate the reference collection as best they can while working from home. The remainder of this project will need to wait until we are able to be in the building and work with the physical items.

Killam 50th anniversary: Marlo and I have followed up on the suggestions made at the brainstorming session in early March. At this point we are focussing the list of ideas to displays and events that would work in an online environment. Jennifer Lambert is taking the lead on displays around the themes of the building (construction and changes), collections and people. The larger planning group will be meeting on June 3rd. Marlo’s “Mystery Photo of the Day” posts to the All Staff Teams site is proving popular and fun.

Streaming Video: In early May, I was approached by faculty in two FASS departments about film screenings for their fall classes. We’ve discovered a large number of films that are part of the curriculum for FASS in particular. The Strategic Resource Management Group and the Resources Team are evaluating streaming services to meet the majority of these needs. Many thanks to Lachlan MacLeod, Cassandra LaRose and Roger Gillis for their guidance with the licensing and copyright considerations with streaming video.

Meetings & Professional development

Faculty of Science Council: April 23, May 14

SLT: April 27, May 4, 11, 14, 21

Virtual Onboarding for new employees: (Talent Management online session) May 1

Killam Subject Liaisons: May 11

LIPCC: Intern Enrichment program May 11

SRMG: May 22.

WebEx with ProQuest on May 22. This was an opportunity for ProQuest reps to introduce long-term arrangements to retain our COVID-related expanded ebook access at reasonable costs, and some other programs for conversion of print to electronic in our current holdings. One of the reports will also estimate shelf space saved by print-to-electronic conversion – a valuable piece of data for crowded stacks.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Stevenson

Senate Representative Report to Library Council

May 2020

The most recent meeting of the Dalhousie University Senate took place on May 11th 2020 via Microsoft Teams. This report summarizes the events of that meeting:

Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a moment of silence for the recent Nova Scotians who have been tragically lost.

Covid-19 Grade Options Processes

Presented by: Teri Balsler

Student-centred process was added to the grading process and this needed ratification by Senate. Senator Balsler expressed that a second piece to recognize is that this student-centred approach was positive, and we may want to consider this for the future. Discussion ensued. Senate voted in favour of having the Provost explore this as a possibility going forward.

Fall update: Academic plan and enrolment stabilization strategy

Presented by: Teri Balsler

Senator Balsler opened by sharing the goals of this strategy, which are to provide stable enrolment and ensure academic continuity. Her team has been working hard to develop deliberate plans, along with measures such as providing messaging to students that gets them excited to come here. She noted that there is a need to continue a sense of community and continuity. She shared that teams are now working on how to make students feel like they're a part of Dal without being on campus. They are looking at orientating them in advance, and messaging plans are still in development. They are also taking into account that students desire an on-campus experience, students have expectations regarding online options and pricing, international students view online learning as less desirable, and there is a need for equity and continuity of experience and programming. She noted that we may also want to determine what changes we might want to do with our programs in the future. She concluded by saying that they are currently in the process of exploring various factors, including how to support faculty as they work in the online environment.

President's Report

Presented by: Deep Saini

President Saini noted that we have recently dealt with a number of tragedies. He also discussed how we are in decent shape financially, but we need to still be thinking ahead and around June we will have a better idea of how enrolment looks for the Fall. He also reiterated that expenses will be fluctuating over the coming months. He concluded by stating that we must work together as a community to find our paths forward.

Dalhousie Research/Innovation Report

Presented by: Alice Aiken

Senator Aiken began by sharing that the highest priority remains the safety of researchers and staff. Campus-based and fieldwork operations are still suspended (other than Covid 19 research). She reiterated that one major goal is to adhere to public health requirements while understanding that

things need to be coordinated with ancillary services. She also noted that researchers will have to develop safety plans for their spaces as part of their return. This will be part of the broader return to activity plan that must include plans to follow safety precautions. Next steps include releasing a memo soon that should entail a phased reopening. The university's intention is to resume research as soon as possible, but this is first and foremost a health and safety issue.

Respectfully submitted by Jackie Phinney

Reminder: Some Council members have scent sensitivities. For this reason, we encourage a "No Scents, Makes Sense" policy within the Libraries. Thank you in advance for keeping this in mind.