Library Council Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2024
Zoom
Start Time: 11 am

Agenda:

1. Welcome (Kyle Bradbury)
2. Library Space Utilization Study (Kelly Karpinsky and Barak Yaryan, *Shepley Bulfinch*)

Starter questions considered in preparation for the engagement session with Shepley Bulfinch:

1. How do you currently use the Libraries?
2. What partnerships could you imagine between your department and other departments & how can the library help facilitate?
3. Physical vs digital material – how are you and your students using the collection?
4. What programs and spaces should the Libraries provide to advance current, emerging, and future research and learning?
5. What is missing from the libraries to support faculty and your students?

Present: Kyle Bradbury, Lou Zhou, Alex Zhang, Blue Dean, Dracine Hodges, Emily Daly, Tim McGeary, Joseph Salem, Rachel Porter, John Quinterno, Astrid Giugni, Tsitsi Jaji, Jocelyn Olcott, Julian Liber, Edward Triplett, Esther Kim Lee, Kate Driscoll, Bill Seaman, Jameca Dupree, Marc Brettler, Michael Reiter, Jennifer Knust, Saskia Ziolkowski, Ahilan Eraniyan, (Kelly Karpinsky, Barak Yaryan, Becky Nichols, and Elvie Sumner, *Shepley Bulfinch*)

Absent: Dean Smith, Ann Saterbak, Naomi Nelson, Thavolia Glymph, Lauren Ginsberg, Misha Angrist, Tracie Canada, Giuseppe Lopomo

1. **Welcome (Kyle Bradbury)**
    - Kyle welcomed everyone and provided an update on the scheduling for the next few meetings, which will be held in person.
    - Joe introduced the Shepley Bullfinch team, who will be leading the library space utilization study.
    - The discussion will include the current trends in library design and focused on the questions sent previously (see above).
2. **Library Space Utilization Study (Kelly Karpinsky and Barak Yaryan, Shepley Bulfinch)**
    - To start, everyone introduced themselves and discuss what they think should be included in the reimagined Perkins and Bostock libraries. The top two suggestions included more space for consultation and collaboration, as well as more space for plants and natural elements.
    - Everyone shared their thoughts on the ideal spaces for their respective areas. Key points included the need for flexible configuration spaces, consultation and research spaces, quiet study spaces, outdoor spaces, and spaces for group work.

- The idea of a digital humanities center was also discussed. Specific suggestions included an interactive media CD-ROM archive, a critical gaming archive, a repository for relevant digital archives, and a media archaeology space.
- The need for more individual Zoom booths and improved outdoor spaces was also highlighted as well as the potential for a coffee shop or cafe space within the library.
- Dracine Hodges emphasized the importance of collection spaces in the planning process and their role in addressing previous issues.
- Kelly highlighted the need for understanding the experiences desired in library spaces, the importance of enhancing a sense of belonging, and the need for a variety of seating types. She also discussed the need for Zoom Rooms, interdisciplinary research spaces, and technology-enhanced spaces.
- Kelly presented examples of research commons and digital scholarship labs, and emphasized the importance of showcasing collections and leveraging outdoor spaces for programming and health and wellness activities.
- Kelly and Barak discussed the alignment of their research with the needs of their students, highlighting the importance of consultation spaces, indoor plant spaces, natural spaces, and flexible configuration spaces.
- Becky then led a discussion on how the library is currently used, with participants sharing their experiences and needs.
- Tsitsi emphasized the importance of consultation with special collections and the need for more flexible spaces. Jocelyn highlighted the lack of quiet study spaces on campus, while Kelly suggested the need for zoned spaces for collaboration and quiet areas. Becky confirmed that these points were noted and would be addressed in future discussions.
- Astrid, Jennifer, Edward, Bill, and Tsitsi discussed their use of the library and potential improvements. Astrid suggested more spaces for specialized librarians to help younger students learn how to use the library. Jennifer expressed her appreciation for the Rubenstein library and its events, as well as the use of physical collections for her students. Edward proposed the integration of environmental data with humanities in the library, and the use of a collaboration space for interdisciplinary work. Bill emphasized the importance of physical books and the interlibrary loan system. Jennifer proposed the use of the library for interdisciplinary collaboration and training students on library use. Kyle suggested the value of subject matter expert research librarians and the need for more pathways for students into research. Tsitsi suggested aligning library needs with available resources and involving graduate students in curating exhibitions. The team also discussed the challenges of accessing off-site books and the need for more digital collections.
- Jennifer expressed her concern about the potential loss of critical thinking skills if students rely too heavily on digital resources. She emphasized the importance of physical copies in her teaching and the need to train students to use them. Bill agreed, highlighting the value of physical books in the arts and sciences, and suggested the possibility of high-resolution scans of books.
- Michael stressed the need to digitize artifacts due to increasing demand and utility, particularly with the integration of AI technologies. Edward agreed and

- suggested the development of an international image interoperability framework to facilitate research and collaboration among libraries.
- Edward expressed a desire for Duke to be more involved in discussions. Becky then discussed various programs and spaces that libraries could provide to advance research and learning, including AR and VR, desktops for computational gaming, multimedia technology, and interdisciplinary workshop rooms. Kyle emphasized the importance of embracing emerging technologies like AI for the benefit of various disciplines. Bill discussed his work on open world recombinant informatics using the Unreal game engine.
- Esther raised a question about the cost-benefit of investing in new technology that may not last long. Joe suggested revisiting partnerships and technology every few years.
- Tsitsi suggested having more collaborative and colorful spaces, and more programming earlier in the day.
- The group also discussed what's missing from the libraries, with common themes including quiet study spaces, event spaces, technology-focused spaces, outdoor spaces, and interdisciplinary spaces. Jennifer suggested making the cafe more inviting for collaboration.
- The conversation ended with a summary of the key points discussed.

Adjourn.