Library Council Meeting Agenda
Monday, January 26th, 2026
Zoom
Start Time: 2:00 PM

Agenda:

1. Welcome (Kyle Bradbury)
2. University Librarian Updates (Joe Salem)
3. Scholarly Communications (Kate Dickson and Elena Feinstein)
4. Closing (Kyle Bradbury)

Present:
Dracine Hodges, Aaron Welborn, Jennifer Knust, Naomi Nelson, Megan Crain, Joe Salem, Kyle Bradbury, Jameca Dupree, Bill Seaman, Rachel Porter, Saskia Ziolkowski, Kate Dickson, Elena Feinstein, Thavolia Glymph, Beverly Murphy, Astrid Adele Giugni, Edward Triplett, Tim McGeary, Dean Smith, Alex Zhang, Sunag Udupa, Tsitsi Jaji, Esther Lee

Absent:
Lauren Ginsberg *(On Sabbatical)*, Giuseppe Lopomo, Tracie Canada, Kate Driscoll, Blue Branton, Michael Reiter, Angelina Lucento, Jon Reifschneider, Akhil Eraniyan, Jocelyn Olcott, Emily Daly, Misha Angrist

1. **Welcome (Kyle Bradbury)**
   - Kyle welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the spring semester and outlined the agenda, which included updates from Joe Salem and a discussion on scholarly communications led by Kate Dickson and Elena Feinstein.
   - The main topics for the scholarly communications discussion were the university's open access policy and emerging models of access to scholarly work.

2. **University Librarian Updates (Joe Salem)**
   - Joe shared several updates, including the successful integration of the Durham Colored Library into Duke Libraries, the naming of the Josiah Charles Trent History of Medicine collections, and the library's avoidance of additional budget cuts.
   - He also announced that two AUL colleagues, Blue Branton and Tim McGeary, would be leaving Duke for new positions at the University of Texas Knoxville and the University of Rochester, respectively.
   - Joe expressed gratitude for their contributions and outlined plans to refill these positions quickly, with a search for Blue's replacement expected to begin by the end of February.
   - Joe explained that interim leaders have been appointed for both Tim's and Blue's roles while an organizational review is conducted. The university is committed to keeping IT within the library and is exploring the best structural arrangement given salary restrictions.
   - Joe expressed gratitude for the council's advocacy regarding library cuts and mentioned that the library is emerging better than expected after difficult times.

3. **Scholarly Communications (Kate Dickson and Elena Feinstein)**
   - Kick Dickson spoke first on the Federal OA Policy Implementation Changes
   - Kate explained the new federal agency public access policy requirements, highlighting that by the end of 2025, all federally funded research papers must be deposited in agency-designated open access repositories with zero embargo, a change from the previous 12-month embargo policy.
   - She noted that the NIH accelerated its implementation timeline to July 1st of the previous year, causing tension between authors' compliance with publisher agreements and federal requirements, as many journals still require payment of article processing charges (APCs) for immediate open access.
   - Kate also addressed why Duke's OA policy cannot currently be used to meet federal public access requirements, as authors must deposit manuscripts in agency-specific systems rather than institutional repositories.
   - Kate explained that institutional repository deposits do not meet compliance requirements for federal funding agencies, and discussed Duke's faculty open access policy, which grants Duke a license to academic work prior to publisher agreements.
   - She noted that while this policy has been in place since 2010, it could potentially lead to more authors being forced into Gold Open Access routes with APC fees if used for compliance purposes.
   - Kate also described the library's efforts to support faculty with these issues, including training subject librarians to assist with questions about open access publishing and author agreements, and emphasized the importance of including OA fees in future grant applications.
   - The group discussed concerns about article processing charges (APCs) and their impact on scholars, with Kate noting that while APCs have been controversial for some time, the current situation may serve as a pressure point for change.
   - The discussion explored alternative publication models, with Kate mentioning Diamond OA journals that don't charge APCs, and Elena highlighting the challenge of getting faculty to submit to high-quality journals that don't carry the prestige of major commercial publishers.
   - Elena Feinstein then discussed Library Access and Data Models with the group.
   - Elena presented on two main topics: access versus ownership models for library collections and how libraries use data to make collection decisions.
   - She explained the differences between ownership and access models, including article purchase on demand and database-style subscriptions.
   - Elena also discussed evidence-based acquisition methods, where librarians make decisions based on usage data rather than just clicks.
   - The group discussed how these models affect different disciplines, with STEM fields often requiring more immediate access to current research while humanities fields may benefit from longer-term access to historical materials.

4. **Closing (Kyle Bradbury**)
   - The conversation ended with a brief discussion about the next council meeting in February, which may be limited to provost-appointed members to facilitate more candid discussions.

Adjourned.