

Librarian & Archivists Forum Minutes

November 26, 2025

Co-chairs: M. Mills and E. Carlisle

Minutes: D. Fiander

Approval of Agenda: Approved, M. Mills

1 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Christie Sich provided a land acknowledgement.

2 MEETING MINUTES

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Approved M. Mills

2.2 Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Forum

[Notes of June 17, 2025](#)

Approved: C. Waugh.

2.3 Standing Agenda Items

2.3.1 Committee reports

2.3.1.1 *Appointments and Selection*

See report attached below.

2.3.1.2 *Promotion and Continuing Appointment*

See report attached below.

2.3.1.3 *Nominations and Elections*

See report attached below.

2.3.1.4 *Workload*

Currently no workload committee. This committee operates on an “as needed” basis.

2.3.2 Optional committee reports

2.3.2.1 *Librarian & Archivist Research Support Network (LARSN)*

The steering group consists of Kristin Hoffmann, Kristin Thompson, Leanne Olson, and Stephen Spong. Watch for a call for membership on the steering group.

LARSN ran a workshop on choosing journals for publication which was very well attended. More workshops are planned in the new year.

The Librarian and Archivist Research Symposium is being planned for the spring. The organizing committee consists of Patrick Gavin (Huron), Monika Mierzwinski-Urban (User Services), Joanne Paterson (RSC), Leanne Olson (ASC), Jason Dyck (T&L), and Kristin Hoffmann (RSC).

The LARSN virtual writing co-working sessions continue to take place every month.

2.3.3 Regular written and verbal reports

2.3.3.1 *Budget and Resource Allocation*

- More to come at the all-staff meeting on Dec 4.
- Geoffrey is feeling more optimistic about the budget than he was at the previous all-staff meeting.
- Required staff reductions will probably be met by normal attrition (eg, planned retirements, staff taking positions elsewhere) over the next year.
- The “resource-constrained environment” will continue to be a problem for at least the next two years.
- Hiring is paused until the end of April, but the library plans to resubmit hiring requests after that.
- While the ACL hires have been frozen for the time being, the search is continuing.
- The Librarian and Archivist job description discussions will resume in the 2026
- Four projects were approved for inclusion in the University’s “All In” funding campaign:
 - o Pride Library endowment: \$500K
 - o Western Libraries Undergraduate Research Award endowment: \$500K
 - o Western Libraries lecture series endowment: \$1 million
 - o Vice Provost and Chief Librarian chair endowment: \$4million
 - Making the VPCL position an endowed chair moves that cost out of the library’s operating budget and frees space for hiring more staff.
- Motion to accept the report: Emily Carlisle. Approved.

2.3.3.2 *Academic activity support fund*

See report attached

2.3.3.3 *Disciplinary Community of Practice and Library Directors Standing Committee*

See report attached

2.3.3.4 *Projects and initiatives*

No ongoing Forum projects or initiatives at this time.

2.4 Business Arising

None presented.

2.5 New Business

2.5.1 Notice re: submitting written reports for future LA Forums

The chairs of the Librarian and Archivist Forum request that, as much as possible, reports be submitted in writing well in advance of the Forum to ensure that they are available for the membership to prepare for the meeting.

2.5.2 Update on the status of book acquisitions

See attached slides.

2.5.3 Question to the SLT arising from UWOFA-LA members about scope of the “research enterprise”

Geoffrey spoke to the question of how the library will be responding to the university’s renewed focus on increasing the “research enterprise”, including budgetary and workload implications.

2.5.4 Motion to move *in camera*

Approved: M. Mills

2.6 Any Other Business

2.7 Adjournment

M. Mills, Approved.

Report on the Activities of the Appointments and P&CA Committees 2025-2026

Appointment and Selection Committees – 2025-2026

Appointments - 2025	Appointments - 2026
<u>DDM Librarian-Term - RENEWAL</u> Candidate: Cowley, A. Rank: General Contract Dates: December 2, 2025 - April 30, 2026	
<u>User Experience Librarian – Term - RENEWAL</u> Candidate: Lee, S. Rank: General Contract Dates: December 2, 2025 – April 30, 2026	
<u>RSC Librarian – Term 10.2</u> Candidate: Vanderschans, A. Rank: General Contract Dates: May 20, 2025 – November 21, 2025	
<u>Digital Strategies Librarian</u> Failed Search	Current Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head, Archives and Special Collections - Additional Brescia hire, role TBC

Promotion & Continuing Appointment Committee 2025-2026

2025	2026
<u>Continuing Appointment and Promotion from Assistant to Associate Rank</u> Candidate: McCord, D. Effective Date: March 31, 2025	<i>In progress:</i> <u>Continuing Appointment and Promotion from Assistant to Associate Rank</u> Candidate: Lawlis, L
<u>Continuing Appointment and Promotion from Assistant to Associate Rank</u> Candidate: Bourgard, E. Effective Date: June 1, 2025	<i>In progress:</i> <u>Continuing Appointment</u> Candidate: Campbell, H.
<u>Continuing Appointment and Promotion from Assistant to Associate Rank</u> Candidate: Cato, J. Effective Date: October 1, 2025	<i>In progress:</i> <u>Promotion from Associate to Senior Rank</u> Candidate: Hoffmann, K.
<i>In progress:</i> <u>Continuing Appointment and Promotion from Assistant to Associate Rank</u> Candidate: MacDonald, WZ	

Please note: the dates at the top of the columns indicate the calendar year.

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: UWOFA-LA Members
Copy: Senior Leadership Team
From: Geoffrey Robert Little, Vice-Provost & Chief Librarian
Date: September 17, 2025
Re: 2024–25 Academic Activity Support Fund Allocations

In accordance with clause 31 of the Compensation and Benefits article of the UWOFA-LA Collective Agreement, I am pleased to share with Members the allocations from the Academic Activity Support Fund (AASF) for the 2024–25 academic year.

Three applications were received from Members, and all three were funded:

Samuel Cassady was awarded **\$1,000** to support the publication of a co-authored, peer-reviewed article titled “Faculty Response to Journal Cancellations” in *Collection Management* (volume 49, issue 4, 2024).

Jason Dyck was awarded **\$2,000** to advance his ongoing scholarship on novenas, pocket-sized prayer booklets that were widely used in the early modern Spanish world. The funding supported a research trip to libraries in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

Elizabeth Hill was awarded **\$2,000** to support her investigation into the development of Data Librarian/Data Specialist roles in Canada. The funds were used for data aggregation and analysis, as well as transcription services.

Congratulations to our colleagues on their successful applications. Their projects reflect the range of thoughtful, engaging scholarship being carried out by librarians and archivists at Western.

Applications for funding to support librarian and archivist academic activities during 2025–26 are now being accepted. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis; the deadline for submissions is **June 1, 2026**.

For full details on eligibility and application requirements, please refer to clauses 28 through 33 of the Compensation and Benefits article of the UWOFA-LA Collective Agreement.

Please contact me if you have questions about the Fund, the application process, or the 2024–25 funding results.

Disciplinary Communities of Practice

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graph LR; DCoPs --> DCoP_Leaders_Group; DCoP_Leaders_Group --> Work_Supporting_External_Review_Processes; Work_Supporting_External_Review_Processes --> Graduate_Education_Council;
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DCoPs

- Arts & Humanities
- Social Science & FIMS
- Health & Medicine
- STEM
- Business
- Law
- Music

DCoP Leaders Group

- ACL Content
- CCS Head and Librarians
- Library Directors
- Head, T&L (ex-officio)

Work Supporting External Review Processes

- Prepare library reports
- Meetings with all Western programs being introduced or undergoing cyclical review

SUPR-U
SUPR-G
Graduate
Education Council

Communities of Practice

Role	Team	Arts & Humanities	Social Science & FIMS	STEM	Medicine & Health	Education	Law	Business	Music	Legend
Leader		David McCord	Liz Mantz	Leanne Olson	Shawn Hendrixx	Samuel Cassady	Emily Carlisle	Elizabeth Marshall	Brian McMillan	CMDA
Member	CMDA	Alie Visser	Christina Zoricic	Samuel Cassady			Jax Cato		Alie Visser	T&L
Member	T&L	Dan Sich	Christy Sich	Dan Sich	Meagan Stanley	Bobby Glushko			Dan Sich	RSC
Member	T&L	Jason Dyck	Bobby Glushko	Stephen Spong	Maren Goodman					ASC
Member	T&L	Kathy Ioannidis	Kathy Ioannidis		Kathryn Holmes					UXSE
Member	T&L				Emily Carrasco-Acosta					SLT
Member	RSC	Rotating	Rotating	Rotating	Marisa Tippet	Rotating	Rotating	Rotating	Rotating	
					Roxanne Isard					
Member	RSC									
Member	ASC	Deborah Meert-Williston	Tom Belton		Anne Quirk				Amanda Jamieson	
Member	UXSE	Alison Pegg	Sara Poulin	Sara Poulin	Sara Poulin	Alison Pegg	Duncan Archibald			
Member	UXSE	Simon Court	Alison Pegg	Hua Tang	Monika Mierzwinski-Ur	Katrina Drobniak				
Member	UXSE			Monika Mierzwinski-Ur	Alicia Calkins	Lyndsey Janzen				
Member	UXSE	Mandy Forbes		Matt Barry			Celina Clubb			
Member	FIMS		Erin Bourgard							
Member	SLT		Christina Zoricic							
Info-only				Elizabeth Sutherland	Hua Tang					
Info-only				Alicia Calkins	Katelyn Clark					
Info-only					Kassandra Antoniadis					

Transition of Book Collecting, Update

1. What Happened?
2. How are we Today?
3. Where are we Headed?

