

LIBRARIAN & ARCHIVISTS FORUM

Meeting Notes, October 12, 2021

Co-Chairs: H. Rykse, M. Barry

Notes: C. Waugh

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Notes from previous meeting: Revise April 9 notes to change Anishinabek Mohawk to Anishinaabemoen

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

C. Waugh: We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ahpay-wuk) and Chonnonton (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

MEETING NOTES:

Business Arising:

a. Terms of Reference – send any additional feedback to the Chairs by Tuesday, October 19th. If there are no substantive suggestions we will aim to finalize the ToR and decide how often they should be reviewed.

b. Open Access Draft Policy Consultation (B. Glushko)

B. Glushko provided a brief presentation on Western's draft OA policy and asked for additional feedback: <https://www.lib.uwo.ca/files/scholarship/openaccesspolicy-draft.pdf>

Questions:

- In the Policy Administration and Review section of the policy it states, "...the university will undertake work to archive, preserve, reproduce, and freely disseminate an electronic copy of all scholarly journal articles..." How are you defining preservation?

Answer: IR contents are not yet in a "trusted digital repository" but there are back-ups and bepress is responsible. A digital preservation plan for unique IR content would be beneficial.

Follow up with Digital Preservation Librarian about Digital Commons back up and an invitation to discuss digital preservation with WL OA standing committee.

- What are the barriers to moving this forward? How can we help?

Answer: Senate is the final hurdle and the plan is to have a focused consultation with them prior to it going for a vote.

So far the survey feedback has been quite positive with the majority of concerns being related to publishing fees. Negative comments tend to be grounded in misinformation (e.g. being told where to publish).

- What happens if a researcher doesn't want to opt-in or is prevented from sharing because the journal they have chosen to publish with is closed?

Answer: There are very few journals that don't allow authors to share a version of their work. Faculty will have the option to opt-out using a form. There is no penalty for opting-out.

Next steps: consultation with Senate, report to Provost, Provost may submit to Senate.

4. Standing Items

Committee Reports:

- a. Librarian and Archivists Research Support Network (LARSN)
(C. Sich and K. Hoffmann)

The LARSN steering committee: K. Hoffmann, K. Meadows (CTL), L. Olson, C. Sich, S. Spong

LARSN members reminded colleagues that its purpose is to provide a supportive space and a community of practice for Librarians & Archivists engaged in research.

Programming includes: regularly scheduled writing retreats and research circles that provide dedicated time and a collegial space to write and discuss research. Other

events include invited speakers on various research topics. Both of these groups are meeting virtually which has proved to be very productive, there may be future plans to meet in person with a virtual option.

Librarians & Archivists are encouraged to join the LARSN Teams Site – email C.Sich to be added to team.

There is also an email alias for the research circle: researchcircle@uwo.ca

LARSN is always looking for programming ideas, please send your suggestions to larsn@uwo.ca

A request for LARSN to share the slides of this presentation.

5. New Business

a. Annual Report and Review (ARR) (B. McMillan)

Following the presentations on completing the ARR process in light of COVID, an additional opportunity to clarify process.

The working group members are working on sharing slides and an FAQ to follow up on the information sessions. They are also in the process of developing the training for supervisors and are aiming to have it ready at the end of the week.

Question: If you wrote your planned activities to take into account how the pandemic would affect your work, should you still check off relevant item(s) on the checklist? For example, if you didn't plan work that would require access to collections, since you knew you wouldn't have access, should you check the item about not having access to collections?

Answer: The checklist is to indicate how the work you planned to do was negatively affected by the pandemic, so in this case you wouldn't need to check off that item.

b. Return to on-campus (C. Waugh)

Conversation about returning to on-campus workspaces, including managing safety and strategies for establishing a new routine.

Thanks to SLT for their leadership through the return to campus process.

Question: Do we have a sense of when in-person meetings will resume?

Answer: Distancing requirements are still in place for meetings. So, meetings can take place if you can be in a space where all meeting attendees can be distanced. Some people have started to have small meetings in person, wearing masks.

General discussion about return to campus. Several people shared their thoughts and apprehensions about returning to campus, including the difficulty of transitioning back to working on campus when all work (meetings, faculty and student interactions) is still

happening virtually, especially given challenges some face with their on-campus workspaces at the moment (shared workspaces, construction noise). Others shared what it's been like for them to return to campus – what they've appreciated and how they've approached the transition. There was appreciation for flexibility during the transition, to return to campus at our own pace, though it seems that not everyone feels that flexibility.

The expectation is that everyone will transition back to working on campus. We are also reminded that it's important to show community and solidarity with other library staff who are required to be on campus and may have been working on campus for some time.

C.Steeves will get a status update on delivery of camp chairs.

6. Adjournment at 10:37am