

## Senate Committee on Libraries

## **MEMO**

The Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Libraries define its scope and relationship with Senate and other Senate committees. Annually in May, the committee presents



In terms of study stalls, the Biblio Café had been stripped and re-set as a bookable study space. Plans were already underway to open the lower level and first floor of the McPherson Library to offer 150 individual bookable spaces under similar arrangements.

The Committee expressed thanks for all the hard work that Library colleagues had put in place to ensure that the community had the best service possible during these times.

At the October meeting, the University Librarian introduced the new Associate University Librarian, Reconciliation – Ry Moran. This is the first role of its kind at a Canadian University. The role is based in the Libraries but will have wider context across campus, with focus on advancing the University's commitment to Reconciliation. A UVic Alumnus and winner of a Distinguished Alumni Award (2018), Ry has sat on the Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC) and was the original Director of the National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation, running this from its base at the University of Manitoba.

Additionally at the October meeting, the committee was apprised of the , with a focus on the main centres of the Learning & Teaching support, such as the Centre for Academic Communications (CAC) and the Math & Stats Assistance Centre (MSAC). Support offered by the Learning Commons was available across campus, with various partners working to assist students. The recent shift to remote teaching and learning had meant that all Learning Commons partners were offering online support, backed by the LearnAnywhere portal (https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/LearnAnywhere/

protect key research data. The Grants Menu has already proven to be very popular across campus. It is also a key relationship-building tool – not just within the University, but there is increasing interest from further afield as other partners learn about it, and seek to develop their own versions.

The University Librarian concluded this session on advanced faculty research support by noting that continuing care and thought was being given to capacity, sustainability and other key issues to ensure research data was protected and stored. There is increased provincial, national and international focus on these issues and the Libraries are very well placed to be a helpful force in these discussions, as well as across campus.

At the January meeting, the committee revisited work being done related to challenges brought on by COVID-19. It was noted that the retrieval / doorstop collection system had proved very successful – again adding that the UVic Libraries had been one of the first (if not the first) in the country to offer access to print collections.

Highlights from the , which had been taken in November, were also shared. One implication of note from the survey was the request that more student study space be made available on campus. Such space in the Libraries was hovering at about 27% usage – so it was clear that there was a need for further promotion, including via Learn Anywhere https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/LearnAnywhere/.

which means that we need to ensure there is the right context: how are we using them, and why? How do we sort data – what to include or exclude – and why? What data points will best support our values and vision?

At the March meeting, the committee was given an introduction to the content