



**UCL**

Library Committee

Tuesday 16 November 2021, 2:



- b. On the subject of Senate House, the Postgraduate Officer (UCL Students' Union) raised feedback received from postgraduate students about the lack of locker space and access to drinking water on the third floor. The Director of Operations (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) explained that the Senate House facilities fell under the remit of University of London (UoL) as opposed to UCL's own Estates team and this presented an additional challenge in implementing the requested improvements; he had flagged these requests again with UCL Estates who were following up with their UoL counterparts. With regards to the request for lockers, there was also a question of funding to be taken into account. The Chair offered to write to Estates to summarise and formally follow up on any collective Estates related issues on behalf of LC; it was agreed that this would be helpful. The Director of Operations (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) would provide an update at the next LC mee( of)2 ( O (i)6 (t)/J -10.68 -1.25 T2 (h)10 12 (hi32 (per)7 (at. d2d)10 (4 ( /H79 -i)6  
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- c. The 2021 National Student Survey (NSS) results had been received in July. These included an overall approval rating of 79.6% which, whilst lower than in the previous year, was higher than the sector average, and

well as the implications of online lectures. Some of these ideas were being trialled in the Student Centre on a small scale. The Director of Operations (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) would provide a further progress update to the next meeting of LC in spring 2022.

- e. Informal feedback had been received from within departments that blended delivery was currently considered to be more feasible to implement in the short-term than hybrid with the spaces currently available. It was noted that the Director of Digital Education was leading a project with enablers looking at learning spaces in light of the move to hybrid and blended learning, with a survey of UCL students and focus groups to be launched in a few weeks' time which would further inform strategy for UCL learning spaces.
- f. It was noted that the results of the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) had included a question that asked 'How do you feel about the library?' (see table below).

5. UKRI Open Access Policy (1-04)
- 5.1. The Head of Open Access Services (UCL Library Services) delivered a presentation on the new UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Open Access policy: key requirements and UCL implementation. The following key points

Open Science and Scholarship, analysing its organisation and highlighting

Culture, Collections & Open Science) agreed to look into both these questions.

(Action: Pro -Vice-Provost (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science))

7. National Negotiations over Science Direct Deal with Elsevier (verbal update)
- 7.1. Exempt from publication, see confidential minutes.
8. Collection Strategy Framework and Collection Management Policy Update (1-06)
- 8.1. The Director of Services (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) introduced the paper, which presented an updated Library Services Collection Management Policy for the approval of LC. The following key points were highlighted:
  - a. The review of the Library Services Collection Management Policy had begun in 2017, with the obvious drivers being the move to digital and the emergence of systems, tools and services which had brought increasing insight into UCL's own collections and where these sat in terms of national and international importance. Following a consultation process which had been delayed due to Covid-19, the final updated policy draft was now presented to LC for their consideration and approval; appended papers included the Collections Framework, Donations Policy and a record of consultation undertaken on the updated Collection Management Policy.
  - b. The updated policy highlighted a commitment to a digital-first approach within UCL's collections. Reasons for this approach included greater accessibility, quicker and more streamlined purchasing processes, the ability to deliver resources in massive volume and





this funding in the past had been its non-unified approach to collection management; the new Research Institute for Collections would aim to deliver this unified approach acting as a central point of advocacy and collaborative ventures within UCL.

- b. A new website for the UCL Research Institute for Collections would be launched shortly.
- c. Funding of £0.5m had already been secured by Professor Adam Gibson to renew digital imaging equipment across UCL which would form part of an ongoing initiative to maintain quality digital materials.
- d. The Pro-Vice-Provost (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) would provide a further update on the UCL Research Institute for Collections at the next LC meeting.

9.2. The following points were raised in discussion:

- a. The Chair provided congratulations on the launch of the new UCL Research Institute for Collections which he noted was a significant achievement.

(Action: Pro -Vice-Provost (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science))

### Part III: Other Business for Approval or Information

10. UCL Library Committee Annual Report 2020 -21 (1-07)

10.1. LC approved the UCL Library Committee Annual Report 2020-21 (1-07).

11. Project bidding in UCL Library Services ( 1-08)

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- 13.1. Since the last meeting, LC had received the following minutes of Faculty-level or Faculty Library Committees (FLCs) that report to LC:
- a. School of Slavonic and East European Studies Library Committee – 3 February 2021;
  - b. Mathematical and Physical Sciences Faculty Library Committee – 24 March 2021;
  - c. Faculty of Laws Library Committee - 26 March 2021;
  - d. Arts & Humanities and Social & Historical Sciences Joint Faculty Library Committee – 12 May 2021 (unconfirmed);
  - e. School of Slavonic and East European Studies Library Committee – 5 May 2021.

14. Date of the next meeting

- 14.1. The next meeting of LC was scheduled to take place at 10.00am on Wednesday 2 March 2022.

15. Any Other Business

- 15.1. There was discussion about a recent issue which had arisen at the Institute of Education (IOE), where wheelchair users and people unable to evacuate by stairs were not currently permitted to access levels 3 and 5 of the IOE library, following an assessment that the disabled fire exits were not fit for purpose. LC members acknowledged that the safety of library users was paramount, however there was concern about the quoted timescale of six months or more for the necessary works to be completed; it was suggested that this was an unacceptably long time given the urgency of the situation and the importance of accessibility. LC members also raised the wider issue of all UCL library sites needing to be made fully accessible, which was not currently the case. The Chair agreed to follow up with Estates to flag the concerns raised by LC on these matters.

(Action: Chair of Library Committee)

Freya Markwell, Library Committee Secretary  
November 2021