Present: Daniel Abramson (Chair); Michael Reed; Sam Thomas; Ning Ma; David Ekbladh; Patrick Forber; Matt Panzer; Chris Rogers; Ex Officio Members: Laura C. Wood and Laura Walters
Absent: Malik Mufti; Valencia Joyner Koomson; Rachel Bonoan (GSC rep); Sophie Pearlman and Janna Karatas (TCU Senate reps)

1. Chair’s Welcome and Member Introductions: Daniel Abramson, Chair

2. Faculty Research Study: Laura Wood, Director, Tisch Library and Laura Walters, Associate Director for Collections and User Services

The Faculty Research Study will be conducted as part of a response to one of the library’s strategic plan goals: to “develop new services that enable the open dissemination of Tufts scholarship to maximize research visibility and impact.” Academic research is changing, and the range of scholarly outputs is expanding beyond the traditional article and book. Scholarly publishing is experiencing a concomitant change. Publishers are experimenting with new business models; federal funding agencies have mandates around the public sharing of funded research; and social media has increased the options for how research can be shared. In an effort to understand how this changing landscape impacts faculty, Laura Walters will conduct a qualitative study of faculty publishing. Tisch will work with the A&S and SOE deans to identify a group of 40 faculty who will be interviewed regarding their habits, needs and opinions around the dissemination of their research and scholarship. Additionally, Library Committee members were encouraged to volunteer and/or provide names of colleagues for Laura to contact. The Associate Directors of the Ginn Library (Lee LaFleur) and Hirsh Medical Library (Debra Berlanstein) will conduct a parallel study of their faculty, which will be incorporated into the final report.

The interviews will be 60 minute, in-person conversations, using a list of guiding questions. IRB approval will be obtained before the study begins. The timeline projection for project completion is the end of April.

The committee was asked to review these questions and provide feedback for refinement/additions:

- What is your general field of research and your specific subfield?
- What is the expectation for promotion and tenure in your discipline?
- How is the impact of research assessed in your discipline?
- Where and what have you recently published?
- What are the factors you consider when deciding where to publish?
- Are there challenges you face when you consider where to publish?
- Do you tend to publish with other research collaborators?
- Are you the editor of a journal?
- Do you see publishing changing in your discipline?
- Is the peer review process changing in your discipline?
- Are there new ways you share your research other than the traditional forms of publishing?
- Are you familiar with open access publishing?
- Have you published in open access journals?
- Do you have any concerns about open access publishing?
- Would it be valuable if you could deposit your scholarly output into the Tufts Institutional Repository and have the library provide reports on how often it has been accessed and downloaded?
- What advice would you give a graduate student or junior colleague about publishing?
Patrick suggested that one of the questions be more explicit in asking faculty if they need a repository for data and video files. Dave echoed this. Chris asked the group if they used the Tufts Box account. Chris offered the following: “What are faculty most proud of in their research life and how was it disseminated?” He also recommended: “How do faculty learn new things/which avenues do they use to learn?”

Open Access (OA) was another prime topic during the discussion. Michael wondered what people’s views about OA are? Do they view it positively or negatively? Matt was interested in more information about ACS credits – what are they and what can you do with them? Tisch Library has discounts for some author fees because we have institutional subscriptions.

Laura Walters told the committee that she would like to know how faculty are doing their research and publishing their work so that we can engage in business models that would best help them. She also is interested in the less formal ways and venues that faculty develop and share scholarship. There are new mandates about sharing scholarship. Additionally, she raised the question about the library’s role in publishing. There is a relationship between some university presses and university libraries: there are 120-125 university presses and approximately 35 of them are now part of the library at the university with which they are affiliated.

Members raised the following points in response:

- how to differentiate between legitimate and scammer publishers/journals
- tenure and promotion is a big issue for junior faculty; publishing is key
- concrete examples given during the faculty interviews would be helpful for stimulating answers to the questions asked (e.g. – new ways to share research)
- will the interviews include those faculty who are in the arts for whom tenure promotion is not based on text? In response to this comment, Danny suggested rephrasing “Are there new ways you share your research other than traditional forms of publishing?” to “Are there ways other than publishing...?”

Chris asked if there will be cataloging of faculty work that is on YouTube. Laura Wood explained that DCA tries to capture and store faculty pages and websites to the greatest extent possible, but YouTube postings will not be catalogued.

The Tufts Institutional Repository includes work that has not been published, but it must be open and digitized. It is possible to place links to published work that is not open in a repository, but Tufts has not implemented this functionality yet. Google and Google Scholar searches will bring people, including those outside of the Tufts community, to the repository.

3. **Update on Service Desks: Laura Wood**

   The Reference and Microforms Desks have been removed because they are no longer serving their purpose. Librarians now are sitting with patrons in Room 224 – the Research Hub – to help them with research and information searches. Several grad students also have been hired to staff the Circ desk, and have been trained to answer basic reference questions, provide triage, and perform some of the Access Services functions. Both former desk areas will be furnished. Concepts from the renovation plan might be utilized. The Ref area printers and stand-up computers will be re-arranged to create a more open space for soft seating (with plenty of electrical outlets). The current plan for the former Microforms area includes more individual work stations with computers and more table space. Ten computers will be relocated to that area and we’ve asked TTS if additional machines might be available from Eaton Lab. The public computers get considerable use because students often would rather use them than carry their laptops with them all day. Patrick suggested adding more standing desks to these areas.

4. **Director’s Update: Laura Wood**

   a. The DDS now has a large format printer. The cost is $5/linear foot (matte paper). If a large, special event printing job is needed, the cost for printing increases to $6/linear foot (glossy paper). Design assistance is available during particular hours, if needed. Student clubs have used the printer already. Chris suggested showcasing copies of all of the posters on a rotating basis on the DDS monitor. Permissions would need to be given by each group.
b. TTS Integration: There are 5 IT staff housed in Tisch’s LITS Department. While their focus remains on Tisch’s IT needs, their budget and reporting are now occurring through TTS.

c. There are 2 imminent staff departures: Regina Raboin and Pauline White. Management is working on the best way to fill Regina’s position. There also is a current search underway for an Electronic Resources Librarian.

d. Print Management Strategy: Weeding the collection, particularly from Reference, has bought time in the near-term re: off-site storage needs. The Eastern Academic Scholars Trust (EAST) is working on retention commitments for print collections across regional institutions. If awarded grant funding, they will conduct a large scale analysis and then establish commitments for a minimum 15-year retention period. This will allow for resource sharing and collaboration. Danny asked Laura to alert the Library Committee once any policy/plan was determined, and before it was launched.

e. Other news: EBSCO is our new journal vendor. (We have acquired insurance now, too.) There have not been any reports of access issues to date.

   DJA has delivered their bench-marking report, which includes information from 9 of our peer institutions. Their final report and recommendations are forthcoming. These recommendations will be a set of potential options rather than a set course. It is likely that all of the options will include a University Librarian. The final report will be discussed at the April 8th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM. The next Library Committee Meeting will be on April 8th from noon – 1:20 PM in the Austin Conference Room.