

Faculty Senate Library Committee Annual Report 2023-24

The Library Committee is a standing committee of a Faculty Senate. It was serviced by seven passionate professors this school year including:

Misty Scoggins	Biology	2022-24
Jeremy Visone	Ed Lead Policy Inst Tech	2020-22 2022-24 (2 terms)
Charles Menoche	Music	2022-24 (6 terms)
Jesse Turner	Lit El Ed Chld Ed	2022-24 (1 term)
Leanne Zalewski	Art & Design	2021-2023; 2023-2025 (2 terms)
Katherine Farrish	Journalism	2023-2025 (1 term)
Joseph Bonnici	Marketing	2023-2025 (1 term)
Carl Antonucci	Director, Library	ex officio
Danaiyla (Dee) Mendoza	Undergraduate Student	2023-2025 (1 term)
Vacant again/ still	Graduate Student	

This year, the committee had one full meeting at least once month during the semester (first Fridays). The meeting included discussions, updates, and information about initiatives (e.g., new library hires and the new addition attached to the building).

To start the committee for the first year, the committee voted to have chair (Dr. Charles Menoche) and secretary (Dr. Leanne Zalewski). (As chair, I am noting that there is a very good set of minutes created by Dr. Zalewski).

The committee started with a collection of items for discussion and consideration throughout the semester, had discussion of various faculties challenges, and worked on getting support for improvements.

- Carl went to an EBSCO conference to learn about artificial intelligence (AI) and other issues affecting libraries.
- Library made improvements for computer, sound systems, projects, etc. for interactive mixed-mode meetings. [CPM notes that when working smoothly, the attendance was one of the best (including while at conferences, etc.)]
- Carl has done Research on the Run sessions and wants more students to attend the sessions, which are recorded. Here is a link to a listing of sessions:
<https://libguides.ccsu.edu/ResearchOnTheRun>.

For the strategic plan:

- Tips for Student Researchers
- All About OER
- Seeking the Truth
- How to Evaluate Online Information
- Trust Me: Evaluating Claims

- Using Zotero to Create Citations and Bibliographies
- Who Wrote That?
- Becoming Privacy Literate

Meetings also included discussions about librarian retirements, replacement hires in the library, and physical and digital library items.

Ongoing questions were asked about the new addition, as well as progress of the improvements of the humidity and air. Likely completion next summer was noted with anticipation.

In October library committee participated in an in-person meeting with the Library's Strategic Planning Committee. All members of the committee helped answer with set responses that the committee had pulled together. These additional participants joined and helped shape the discussion: Martha Kruey, Renata Vickrey, and Sharon Clapp.

In late November, the committee was inspired by an initiative by Jess Turner's suggestion, leading to a decision to see Library and Reading. All agreed it would be a change in the spring, but the thought was to see if it might be possible, to all take place in the library.

Over multiple meetings many people articulated a wish that Dr. Farrish's key elements take place, so that it was successful on April 16th. Short notes of this event are below, provided by Dr. Farrish.

More than 80 people attended the Pursue the Truth Day at The Library on April 16 at the Elihu Burritt Library that was sponsored by the library and the Library Committee with funding from CCSU's Center for Community Engagement and Social Research and its AAUP chapter. It was a day to celebrate the exploration of facts through a variety of lenses, including art, music, science, journalism, public policy, books and even virtual reality. Adults and children posed with favorite books to make a READ poster. Others met filmmaker Christopher Brown and watched his documentary short, "Thoughts are Things" on virtual reality headsets provided by Central's XR lab.

Audience members heard NBC Connecticut's Len Besthoff and the CT Mirror's Andrew Brown discuss how they pursue the truth as investigative reporters. Russell Blair, the director of communications and education at the state Freedom of Information Commission, told visitors how they can use the FOI Act to obtain public records. Others were able to find out more about Connecticut history at the Connecticut Explored table and storytelling from the Connecticut Storytelling Center.

Staff members Joy Hansen and Martha Kruey had displays on challenged books and spotting misinformation and disinformation online, and children who attend Prof. Jesse Turner's Literacy Lab received free books and had fun completing a scavenger hunt.

The library committee was active for the 23-24 academic year, with some meetings full discussions and other just updates. This report will be provided by the last committee meeting, but we are not anticipating any big items and more discussions of initial goals

for next academic year. If something big comes up at the last committee meeting, it will be added to the September 2024 first meeting.