

CAS Library Committee Report Fall 2017

Chair: Dr. Giulia La Mattina

Committee Members:

Dr. Anne Latowsky

Dr. Regina Hewitt

Dr. Manu Samnotra

Dr. Mike Covert

Peter Cannon

Sarah Elizabeth Toler

The library committee has met once as a full body, in the first meeting electing a new Chair (Dr. Giulia La Mattina) and defining issues that were discussed by email periodically throughout the term. Additionally, Committee Member Dr. Regina Hewitt has had a meeting with Nancy Cunningham (Director of Academic Services). The committee will meet again with Nancy Cunningham in early spring.

A number of issues have been discussed, with the following of most importance.

Issue 1: ROLES program

The primary issue discussed by the committee, in consultation with Nancy Cunningham, concerns the Liaison program between library and academic departments, which is now referred to as ROLES. ROLES stands for Re-envisioning Library Engagement Services. The program will blend two models—the traditional “subject” model and the new “function” model. In the traditional model, a librarian who specializes in the subject area of a given department works with members of a department about needs focused on the content of the collection. In the function model, a librarian who specializes in a particular way of using resources—such as digital humanities or legal matters concerning copyright, fair use and rights management—works with members of a department on their particular projects or concerns. The program is currently in its initial stage. Nancy Cunningham is going to do a presentation for the CAS Library Committee elaborating on the ROLES study and program in the early part of the Spring 2018 term.

Issue 2: Audiobooks

The committee explored student and faculty access to audiobooks. The library no longer purchases audiobooks. EBooks platforms however usually provide for ADA purposes a way to hear the text read.

Issue 3: Interlibrary loan and UBorrow

The library committee asked for more consistent rules on borrowing physical books when an e-book is available. It was explained that honoring such requests may not be possible because the rules about such lending are in an agreement honored by all libraries involved. The rules restrict lending when a library owns a book in any form. Nancy Cunningham recommended, however, that a patron who really needs to see a particular volume in print when we own only digital make a request that we acquire the print form and such requests will be seriously considered.