

CAS Library Committee Report Spring 2018

Chair: Dr. Regina Hewitt (English)

Committee Members:

Dr. Roberta Baer (Anthropology)

Dr. Mike Coover (Psychology)

Dr. Anne Latowsky (World Languages)

Dr. Manu Samnotra (Interdisciplinary Global Studies)

Peter Cannon (Graduate Student Representative)

Sarah Elizabeth Toler (Undergraduate Student Representative)

The Committee membership was adjusted at the beginning of the Spring 2018 term as Roberta Baer returned after a sabbatical and Giulia La Mattina (Economics), who had served as Committee Chair during the Fall of 2017, rotated off. As its first order of business, conducted by frequent exchange of email messages throughout the term, the Committee elected Regina Hewitt as Chair.

The focus of the Committee this term has been on the implementation of the Liaison Program and on the impact of the new website.

Following up on discussions of the Liaison Program begun during the Fall of 2017, the Committee learned more about the ROLES (Re-imagining Library Engagement Services) study leading up to the redesign of the Program and about plans to implement the new “hybrid” model from a presentation by Maryellen Allen (Assistant Director of Instruction for the Library) given on Jan. 30, 2018. Thomas Cetwinski, Director of Planning and Accountability for the Library, also attended.

The presentation explained that the Liaison Program is a means to facilitate communication and coordination between representatives of the Library and of academic Departments. USF has chosen to have a “hybrid” program, which means that coordination may be by either “subject” (field of study) specialty or “function” (multi-disciplinary concerns such as copyright or digitalization) specialty. In general, the newer “function” model will predominate, except in Departments with already established “subject” relationships.

The implementation will take the form of “Research Platforms” that will develop according to individual Department’s needs. The first Platform has been started in Geosciences, at the request of the Department. Other Departments can request that implementation based on their needs be considered. The CAS Library Committee will consider how it might help implementation of the Program in Departments within the College in the future.

After the presentation, the discussion turned to the new web interface that the Library launched in December of 2017. The Committee learned that the website was designed for the Library by EBSCO based on undergraduate focus group studies; Committee members were concerned that such studies may have underrepresented the needs of faculty and advanced graduate students. It

was decided that the Committee would undertake an informal survey of members of their own Departments to learn whether the new design was meeting these needs.

Members surveyed their colleagues by email in February and forwarded responses to Committee Chair, Regina Hewitt, who compiled them and sent them to the Library on Feb. 27. They will be discussed by the Library's Webmaster and Web Team at a meeting in April. Following up on this matter is expected to be an ongoing task of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Hewitt
April 2, 2018