



Minutes of the University Libraries Assembly
<https://www.augusta.edu/library/libassembly.php>

1:00 PM, TEAMS

March 18, 2025

Call to Order: 1:00 PM

Attendees: BWarren, JGaines, EHarris, TDority, KDavies, MJohnson, ELightfoot, EPrentiss, TWeeks, NReese, ALuster, DBallance, WRussell, CBerge, SHarrington

1. Approval of Minutes: ALuster, EHarris
2. OLD Business: None
3. NEW Business
 - a. Dean of Libraries Update (BWarren)
 - i. Recognized promoted librarians and Faculty Award recipient.
 - ii. Notifications for promotion eligibility were sent last Friday, the cycle begins 3/28/25.
 - iii. Celebration of Faculty on 4/3/25, attendance is encouraged.
 - iv. Will be attending ACRL Conference during first week of April.
 - v. Discussion of IMLS cuts and ACRL statement.
 - vi. Asked liaisons about instruction concerns due to the Folio migration – none mentioned.
 - b. Greenblatt Library Director Update (KDavies)
 - i. Personnel - Grad Assistant position will continue, CTL position is in process, and there are no updates on the Savannah librarian position.
 - ii. Medical Illustration and “Love Your Heart” exhibits are located on the first floor.

University Libraries

- iii. Library is preparing CTL orders.
 - iv. Will have exhibits for National Library Week at both libraries.
 - v. Working on spending Young Funds. Asked for health sciences title requests.
- c. Reese Library Director Update (MJohnson)
- i. Working with Steve Hardy, we submitted a grant to the Knox Foundation to fund furniture for a Special Collections Reading Room. We had asked for \$17k, to cover tables, shelving, display shelving, chairs, and books. He called yesterday to let us know that we did not get fully funded; but were awarded \$8k.
 - ii. I met with the University's construction project manager to discuss the carpeting on the stairs. They will be using the same black carpeting in the rest of the library on the landings, and black rubber treads on the stairs. They are not sure when the materials will arrive, but will try to do the installation after graduation.
 - iii. The Department of Music submitted their self study to the National Association of Music Educators (NASM) and included the spreadsheets Rod and Elizabeth provided about our Music holdings. Their evaluators will be coming on April 21 to visit Reese and meet with Melissa.
 - iv. As part of the SACSOC accreditation, work on the new Quality Enhancement Plan has begun. I have been appointed to the design committee for the new QEP. The topic is "Career Readiness Portfolio." We had our first meeting last Friday, so I am currently compiling literature related to the topic. The deadline for having the new plan developed is December.
 - v. Trent Kays had to move back home to Virginia, so he will be stepping down as the Director of Freshman Composition at the end of July. Amelia Hall will be assuming this role in the interim beginning August 1.
 - vi. The Student Success Librarian position was posted last week for a Qualified Internal Candidate, and from my understanding we only had one candidate apply. Thomas Weeks is the search committee chair for that position. You will be hearing from the search committee about that search in the near future.
 - vii. The Online Learning Librarian position, a term position to help with the digital instruction materials and liaise with AU Online, has been posted. Aspasia is the search committee chair for this position.
 - viii. The part-time morning position in Access Services is currently in the "check references" stage.

- ix. Speaking of Online instruction, Erin, in coordination with Rod, Elizabeth, and the Instruction Design Team has integrated Ebsco's LTI (Learning Tools Interoperability) into D2L. We tested it in my FA ENGL 1101 and 1102 courses. In the old interface of D2L, it works well. In the updated version of D2L, it was having difficulties. Erin is working with Ebsco to see about getting that fixed. It should then be ready to be announced for use in hopefully Summer classes.
 - x. I will be on a panel discussion at ALA Annual in Philadelphia in June about censorship. I will be presenting about partnering with the AAUP about GA Senate Bill 390 last year, and the resolution submitted to the faculty senate supporting the librarians and libraries.
- d. Collections Director Update (ELightfoot)
- i. Elizabeth and David Y. submitted the Libraries response to the University's records retention inventory survey. Thank you to everyone who provided information.
 - ii. Elizabeth and David Y. also submitted the Libraries response to the annual ACRL Survey. Thank you to everyone who provided information this year.
 - iii. FOLIO and other migration tasks for the GIL Acquisitions/Electronic Resources Management (ACQ/ERM) Committee continue to require much time and attention.
 - iv. With Melissa and Kathy, Elizabeth attended a workshop for the academic department chairs entitled "Cultivating Success: Leadership Strategies for Academic Chairs."
 - v. The Collections Advisory Committee meets on March 20.
- e. Systems Director Update (RBustos)
- i. GIL Support lifted the freeze on FOLIO activity late yesterday afternoon. All testing activity in the system can now resume. EDS and Locate are still being built out and GIL Support will keep us updated as they are ready.
- f. University Senate Update (ALuster/STharrington)
- i. President Keen
 - i. Announced the approval of a \$99.8 million research building.

- ii. Discussed USG presidents meeting with Chancellor Perdue, current bills in the Assembly, “pivot[ing]” from traditional DEI, and remote work policies.
 - iii. USG schools are moving towards performance-based funding from the state.
 - ii. Dr. Head spoke for Dr. Sullivan
 - i. Faculty should complete the survey on evaluation, promotion and tenure.
 - ii. Patio furniture is available for faculty use at Boykin-Wright Hall.
 - iii. Dr. Kayla Harris discussed forthcoming AI policy and guidance.
 - iv. Dr. Goss and Mickey Williford provided updates on the QEP and SACSCOC.
 - v. Dr. Blackburn gave IT certificate program updates.
- g. Professional Development and Research Committee (EHarris)
 - i. Completed the suggested LibGuide updates.
 - ii. The professional development spreadsheet can be edited by anyone/is open for additions.
- h. Promotion Review Committee Update (JGaines/ELightfoot)
 - i. Julie and Elizabeth have rotated off the committee. Completed their appointments.
- i. Updated AU Libraries Promotion Guidelines (EHarris/TWeeks)
 - i. The committee is updating the guidelines. Will make suggested changes and send out for a vote next week.
 - ii. Discussed adopting the five categories of effort for promotion, as done in annual evaluations.
- j. University Committee Updates
 - i. Curriculum and Academic Policies (TWeeks)
 - i. No meeting. Our previous chair, Dr. Andrew Goss, stepped down to enter a new administrative role. We have new co-chairs: Dr. Stephanie Johnson and Dr. Alicia Elam.
 - ii. Student Affairs (ALuster)

- i. The Student Affairs Subcommittee met in mid-February. Guest speaker was Dr. Veronica Wilson, Director of Undergraduate Academic Advising. She explained the type of assistance and resources they offer to students and how Advising is now centralized so that faculty can be freed up to pursue other work. The Advising process became centralized because AU was losing 1,000 students once they started being advised by their departments. Registration rates have increased after the pre-advisement survey was implemented.
- ii. D2L is being revamped so the Instructional Innovation folks like the committee's idea of creating a student check-in feature and an events calendar tab on the platform.
- iii. AU is drafting an AI policy; the draft was sent to AUFS Committee Chairs, and the chairs were told not to share with committee members, but Blaire doesn't know why there is secrecy around this policy. She asked the committee what do we want students to get out of using AI? What are our concerns about students using AI?
 - privacy concerns
 - teaching students to use AI safely
 - need updated list of approved AI tech sent out every semester
- iii. Athletics (RBustos) – No Report
- iv. BAUR (Budget Advisory and University Resources Committee) (RBustos) – No Report
- v. Faculty Development Committee (CBerge)
 - i. In February, the FDC presented the results of a peer evaluation survey they conducted, that found there is no standardization across the university on peer evaluations. I am happy to share the PowerPoint with the results of that survey if anyone wishes to see it.
 - ii. In the March meeting, Dr. Head talked shared her congratulations to faculty who had received promotion and tenure and encouraged people to attend the Celebration of Faculty.
 - iii. Ongoing, the FDC has created a sub-committee that is working to establish a clothing pantry on campus for staff, faculty, and students.
- vi. Faculty Grievance (NReese)

- i. The committee has not met since January. A subcommittee may be working on an active grievance.
- vii. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities (DBallance) – No Report
- viii. Governance and Communication (EHarris)
 - i. Emily Harris is the incoming chair. The committee has distributed the faculty interest survey. Participants will select Faculty Senate committees to serve on for 2025-2026.
- ix. Information Technology (RBustos) – No Report
- x. Promotion and Tenure (EPrentiss) – No Report
- xi. Research (STharrington)
 - i. The committee is collecting feedback and negotiating for research space in the new building; it is also seeking guidance from other USG schools. Send feedback to committee chair, Almira Vazdarjanova.
- k. Hiring concerns (EPrentiss)
 - i. Discussed filling open positions.

4. Announcements

- a. Augusta Gives, the Holocaust Lecture Series, and SHOES Conference is happening this month.
- b. Remember to vote on Promotion Guidelines that are due to Faculty Affairs at the end of the month. Promotion Calendar is complete.
- c. The next Libraries Assembly meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025, from 1 PM – 2:30 PM on TEAMS.

Adjournment, 2:18 PM; EHarris, NReese