



MEMORANDUM

To: Barbara H. Eccles, Secretary of Senate
From: Dr. Amanda Diochon - Chair, Senate Library Committee
Senate Meeting Date: January 23, 2017
Subject: Senate Library Committee Report

The Senate Library Committee (SLC) held two meetings this fall to discuss the Provost's Task Force on Innovation and Excellence in Teaching, Technology and Learning and the future of the SLC.

On October 21, 2017 the SLC met and was joined by Dr. Craig MacKinnon from the Senate Organization Committee to discuss the Motion that will come to Senate at the January 23, 2017 meeting to rescind the terms of reference (TOR) of the SLC as part of the formation of the new Teaching and Learning Committee. After the meeting the SLC submitted a memorandum to the Senate Organization Committee outlining the SLC's concerns regarding the proposal. We are concerned that:

- the role of the library will lose visibility in the university user community because it will be relegated to a sub-committee within the new committee.
- representation of the Library is formally only by management and does not represent the wider community.
- dissemination of changes to the Library's policies and procedures will not be widely made to the university user community, which will limit community input on the Library's policies and procedures.
- the importance and role of the library i.e. its footprint within the community will not be maintained at Senate and in the university user community.
- the relationship between the library and research is not adequately considered in the current proposal as the focus is primarily on Teaching and Learning.
- there is no representation of the librarians on the current proposal and the new committee.

On December 9, 2016 we met again with Dr. Craig MacKinnon to discuss the memorandum. Craig discussed the response of the Senate Organization Committee to our feedback and informed us that there will be a librarian on the new Teaching and Learning Committee. After we heard from Craig we further discussed the future of the SLC. As a committee we feel that the SLC still has an important role to play and we discussed how to proceed. We recognize, appreciate and respect the careful thought, effort and time invested to develop the terms of reference of the proposed Teaching and Learning Committee. We fully support the proposed Teaching and Learning Committee but still feel that the SLC has a role to play. We recognize that the SLC needs to be more active and, in addition to advising and making recommendations on the library's policies and

procedures, we envision the SLC making recommendations on matters pertaining to the evolution of the library collection, services offered by the library, the operation and improvement of physical facilities and emerging areas of relevance. We also discussed making recommendations to facilitate and improve communication between the Library and academic units. We are considering the possibility of proposing an amendment to strike out the SLC from the forthcoming motion pertaining to the proposal for the new Teaching and Learning Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Amanda Diochon (Chair)