Five Colleges of Ohio Libraries Curricular Engagement Group

Updated: August 25, 2020

Charge

The Five Colleges of Ohio Libraries’ Curricular Engagement Subcommittee promotes best practices, innovations, and collaboration in library instruction in both classroom spaces and co-curricular endeavours. The subcommittee has two focus areas. It will work to support individual institutions’ teaching efforts through formal professional development and informal resource sharing. Also, through this subcommittee, contingents from all of the Ohio Five will work together on collaborative projects to pool resources to build “objects” that would be beyond what one single institution could achieve alone.

With the understanding that libraries are not neutral spaces and have a history of silencing and omitting groups and voices from their pursuits and conversations, the libraries’ Curricular Engagement Subcommittee strives to reverse harmful historic patterns and encourages teaching and learning initiatives that are inclusive and representative of all the students and faculty that we serve and will serve, with a special focus on voices that have historically been marginalized in the academic library.

Steering Committee

The subcommittee is in an early stage of development, and at this time, is being led by a steering committee composed of librarians representing each of the five colleges. The steering committee is responsible for establishing the initial direction, actions, communications, and meetings of the developing group in consultation with a director liaison from the Ohio Five Library Committee.

Steering Committee Members:

- Annie Dempsey, (former Wooster Librarian, now at University of Michigan)
- Liz Lang, Public Services Librarian, Ohio Wesleyan University
- Megan Mitchell, Academic Engagement & Digital Initiatives Librarian, Oberlin College
- Lisa Morrison, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian, Denison University
- Shannon Simpson, Scholarly Instruction Librarian, Kenyon College
- Elizabeth Sullivan, Assessment & User Experience Librarian, Oberlin College
Meeting Schedule:
The Steering Committee will meet virtually each month during its first year. Larger meetings with all members will be held in the Spring (May) and Fall semesters. In these larger gatherings, half of the meeting time will be devoted to a professional development or learning activity while the second half will be devoted to collaborative work on shared projects.

Director Liaison
The Library Committee will appoint a director liaison who will serve as a resource for the library subcommittees to help ensure that the activities of the subcommittees are in alignment with larger consortial strategic directions. The director liaison may be invited to attend the subcommittee meetings, but regular attendance is not expected.

The current liaison is BethAnn Zambella, Director of Libraries, Denison University

Funding
The libraries’ Curricular Engagement Subcommittee may draw upon funds from the consortial meetings and training budgets to accommodate modest meal, transportation, and professional development expenses. Further requests for funding should be submitted to the Library Committee for review via the director liaison.

Members:
All librarians, archivists, curators, and staff with teaching responsibilities are considered members of the subcommittee and may optionally participate in any of the group’s activities as time and interest allows.