LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS' STEWARDS COMMITTEE MEETING

May 20, 2026, 9:30-11 am Weldon Room M22 and Zoom

Present: Courtney, Bobby, Kristi, Jennifer, David, Bethany, Leslie, Tolga, Yasmeen

Note Taker: Jennifer

Notes:

Guests:

Regrets: Alie, Zack

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Notes: April 15, 2026

Business Arising from Previous Meeting:

1. **Recruitments follow up** (Courtney)

   Director/Head positions - Courtney sent a message encouraging Members to consider/apply to these positions. Feedback was received that some individuals attempted to negotiate stipend/salary without success to date.

2. **Job Descriptions Check-In -** Shared at JC that this work had "fallen off the radar" of Employer.

Standing Agenda Items:

1. **User Experience and Student Engagement (Jennifer):**
   a. Discussion of the recent announcement that the UX Assessment Librarian position will not be filled after June 30.
2. **Teaching and Learning (Bobby):** Acting Head is on leave for an undetermined amount of time.
3. **Research and Scholarly Communications and FIMS (Kristi)**
4. **Collections Management, Discovery and Access (Alie)**
5. **Archives and Special Collections (Zack)**
6. **Members Services Officer Report (Lina & Tolga):**
   a. **Working Conditions -** Grievance filed for Faculty regarding telephones, CA says each Member shall be provided with a phone (among other tools). At the Grievance Committee meeting this was also discussed for UWOFA-LA; filed a policy grievance. Understand not everyone requires a phone, however want to reserve this right that was negotiated under the CA. If the Employer wants to make a change, they should consult with UWOFA about this so it can be negotiated.
7. **Senate Observer (Elizabeth)**

    a. Email summary sent May 19
8. **Joint Committee Report (Shawn/Leslie)**
    a. Brought in recruitment firm for open Head ASC position after failing to fill internally.
    b. Job Descriptions - VP:CL advised this had fallen off their radar. Should be reengaging on this in the coming month.
    c. UX Assessment and RSC positions - Inquired about this, will be brought back to JC next month with a response from the Employer.
    d. IT Futures Committee (Kristi): Inability to pay for library software without a Speed Code was discussed, and it was determined credit cards can be used in future if needed. Decided against AI Tutor pilot. AI Gemini (Google) is still being pursued. Discussion of costs of WTS budget for software, but no action or outcomes arising.
9. **Board of Directors (Courtney):**
    a. Appointment of UWOFA-LA Collective Bargaining Committee
    b. Dependent Tuition Scholarship Fund: Running a deficit. Looking at solutions to address this, so that they don't have to reduce the amount of the award.
    c. Negotiations: For Faculty are underway. Lots of dates are already set with the Employer.
10. **Communications Officer (Bethany):** Will be a Communication in the weekly about the RIMS project, related to the RIMS LOU. Rolled out with some incorrect profiles; connecting individuals with Jo to address this, in alignment with the LOU. LOU lives on the UWOFA website if anyone wants to review it.
    Mobilization Report (David):
11. **Librarians & Archivists Forum (All):** Rescheduled to June 22. Made a call for agenda items.

New Business:

1. LA Steward Nominations - Courtney is in her term as Chief Steward until next year. Previously on staggered terms to provide overlap for knowledge transfer. Going to keep with this same model even though this specific language isn't in the by-law. CMDA, T&L and UX are all up for election starting June 1. Open for a week. A message will go out to the Bargaining Unit about the election seeking nominations. Stewards who are on the Negotiating Team have the option to resign before the end of their term (ASC and RSC end next year).

2. New position on RSC team - Related to UX: Assessment role (above under UXSE). A new position has been added to the RSC team, classified as a general RSC Librarian role with a focus on artificial intelligence and machine learning. The RSC team also includes specialist positions related to RDM, Data, and Knowledge Synthesis. Team members

were surprised by the addition of AI to scholarly communication as it was not identified as a need or gap in recent organizational planning discussions. Some Members raised questions about whether classifying the role as a "general" RSC role is intended to avoid characterizing it as a newly created position, and whether this approach could set a precedent leading to scope creep for other positions similarly designated as generalist. It was also noted that in two recent recruitment processes, a need for this area was not identified as a research gap requiring a new position. These concerns were communicated to Joint Committee.

3. OneDrive concerns - Raised with WTS. OneDrive permissions are confusing, and it's possible for people to set permissions such that people can get access to files they should not be able to access. The Member provided examples of files they could access that they should not be able to see, such as CVs. WTS HelpDesk (where the Member took the concern) responded that permissions are set by the user; this doesn't fully address the concern. Recommended this be taken to Joint Committee, and Kristi will raise at IT Futures Committee for discussion.

Next meeting: June 17, 2026

Note-taking roster for upcoming meetings:

Kristi Thompson –
Zack MacDonald –
Bobby Glushko –
Jennifer Robinson – May
Alie Visser - June