Research and Publication Committee, Annual Report FY2019-2020

Committee page: https://www.library.illinois.edu/staff/committee/research-and-publication-committee/

Charge: The Library Research and Publication Committee is a standing committee of the Library Faculty established to encourage research and publication among Library Faculty by:

- providing monetary support
- bringing alternate sources of funding to the attention of the Library Faculty
- stimulating interest in and discussion of research ideas and methodologies among librarians
- providing practical criticism of and support for research projects
- advancing Library research and publications within the University community

The Committee reviews and approves or disapproves funding requests for student wages, graduate assistants, travel to other research collections, photocopying, manuscript preparation, data analysis, the creation of illustrations, editing for non-native English speakers, etc. The Committee sponsors occasional brown-bag series that focus on library research.

FY2019-2020 Membership

- Merinda Kaye Hensley, Chair (Aug 2017 - Aug 2021)
- Seth Robbins (Aug 2018 - Aug 2020)
- Chris Bailey (ex officio - Visiting Information Sciences Librarian)
- Heidi Imker (ex officio - AUL for Research)
- Margaret (Peg) Burnette (Aug 2019 - Aug 2021)

Accomplishments

1. The dean approved $30,000 for an annual budget for faculty awards and $5,000 for academic professional awards, a total of $35,000.
2. The committee approved ten awards for a total of $18,463.07 leaving $11,536.93 unspent for the year.
3. One award was placed on hold due to travel restrictions from COVID-19.
4. The chair met with three new librarians to review RPC charge and documentation.
5. Scheduled research support events:
   1. "Illinois Experts: Exploring Your Faculty Profile" with Mark Zulauf, 12/4/2019
   4. REDCap with Michelle Lore, REDCap Application Specialist, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute, 2/4/2020
   6. "Qualtrics Training 101: Getting Started with the Basics" with Josh Henry, Associate Director for Information Technology in the College of Agricultural Consumer and Environmental Science, 3/9/20 and 4/3/20
8. The committee brainstormed several options for professional development in the future: e.g. How to handle major revisions, feedback, rejection; Keeping up with your research while working from home; Invite Grants & Contracts Coordinator to RPC to facilitate coordination with RPC and possibly a future workshop on finding and applying for grants; How to start research for those that don’t have as much experience with research; Things to consider when looking to publish open access; How to write a literature review; Answering questions about systematic reviews or scoping reviews. Watch for several of these titles FY21.

6. Contacted awardees for FY 19 and FY 20 to complete Project Outcomes Form and invite to participate in panel early Fall 2020.

7. Started project to update RPC website to be completed FY21.

8. Updated application forms to PDF forms format. Will be added to revised website FY21.

9. Discussion with LCAP re: investigation time/research support for academic professionals.

1. Survey of current AP research activities in order to better determine the types of support from RPC.

10. Discussion with AUL for Research and AUL for Academic Affairs re: supporting profile development in the library. This project will continue to FY21.

11. Chair constructed "Notes for the Chair" document to pass to next chair.

12. The committee decided to adjust the timing of the Library Research Showcase (LRS) to every other year and to coincide with the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) conference which is held bi-annually every odd numbered year. The committee will plan for the LRS in spring 2021.

8/28/20