



Library Subcommittee Minutes: October 9, 2025

Approved LSM 25-05

Present: V. Ahmed, G. Crocker, K. Howard, T. Meyerott, E. Porter, M. Pourhomayoun, C. Rodriguez (Executive Secretary), L. Terrones (Chair), M. Ucock Hughes, T. Vunidilo

Guests: A. Varela, H. Yu

1. Call to Order

Chair Terrones called the meeting to order at 10:51 a.m.

2. Announcements

The committee congratulated Dr. Mohammad Pourhomayoun on the \$1.4 million NASA grant to develop an AI system for wildfire prediction and management.

3. Approval of the September 11, 2025 Minutes

It was m/s/p (Porter) to approve the minutes with a correction under item 3, “minutes were approved” to plural.

4. Approval of the Agenda

It was m/s/p (Porter) to approve.

5. Update Reports

5.1 EPC Liaison – Katherine Howard

Provided updates from EPC meetings:

- **Curriculum Access:** EPC continuing discussions on lecturer and tenure-track faculty access and editing permissions. Time certain held with Margaret Garcia on Sept. 17.
- **Micro-Credentials Policy:** Drafting a new policy to formalize micro-credential offerings, modeled after CSU Long Beach’s framework. Faculty from multiple departments are contributing, with planned consultations with Registrar, Career Center, and external CSU representatives.
- **Pricing & Access:** Micro-credentials would **not add extra cost** to students; they represent interdisciplinary course groupings recognized with digital badges or transcript notations rather than new tuition-based programs.
- Discussion included differentiation from community colleges, maintaining quality, and avoiding redundancy.

5.2 ASI Student Rep – Vacant; no report

5.3 University Library – Dean Rodriguez, no reports

6. Proposed Policy Modification: Library Subcommittee (LS 24-04) Update

Chair Terrones reported that AIRS reviewed and endorsed the proposed modification with no recommended changes.

Chair Terrones will verify if a formal memo from AIRS is required before EPC sends the proposal to Academic Senate for first reading.

Members were asked to re-review the draft for typos or formatting issues before Senate submission.

7. AI Discussion

Ariana Varela, Head of Learning, Research and Engagement Services, was present as a time certain guest to highlight AI Initiatives at the Library.

Report Highlights:

- Alethea AI Pilot: Cal State LA participated with San Bernardino and Pomona. After one year of faculty and student feedback, the university decided not to adopt due to poor usability, minimal learning gains, and redundancy with existing tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Perusal).
- Ongoing AI Projects:
 - *Ithaka S+R AI Literacy Project*: Faculty and student interviews underway to assess perceptions of AI on campus.
 - *Library Live Series (Fall 2025)*:
 - Oct. 14: AI & Misinformation
 - Oct. 28: AI Database & Research Tools
 - Nov. 13: Consent, Surveillance & Capitalism
 - *AI Literacy and Ethics LibGuide*: Updated with resources on critical and ethical AI use in research.
 - *AI-Assisted Literature Review Guide (Sociology)*: Developed for faculty instruction requests.

The committee explored ethical AI use, student learning impact, and evaluation tools. Members emphasized the need for a campus-wide AI policy and increased participation in CSU-wide AI surveys. Faculty are encouraged to allocate class time for survey completion to boost campus representation, and the suggestion was to add the survey to the MyCalStateLA portal to increase visibility. Survey link shared: <https://aisurvey.sdsu.edu/live/>, open through next week.

8. Budget Impacts on Journal and Database Cancellations

Holly Yu, Head of Library Collections, Discovery, and Content Management (CDCM), was present as a time certain guest to present budget impact to CDCM's area.

Highlights from Presentation:

- Staffing & Operations: CDCM operates with 3.3 FTE, far fewer than comparable CSU libraries.
- Current Holdings:
 - 325 databases / journal packages
 - 670,000 e-journals
 - 1.6M e-books
 - 100,000+ streaming videos
 - 1M theses/dissertations
- Budget Reductions:
 - Total library budget reduced from \$6.5M (2023–24) to \$5.1M (2025–26) — a cumulative 21% decrease.
 - Collections funding fell 20% since 2023–24.
- Subscription Expenditures:
 - \$1.6M (FY 2023–24) → \$1.3M (FY 2024–25)
 - Projected \$124,000 shortfall for FY 2025–26.
- Cancellations:
 - FY 2024–25: 24 databases, 36 journals canceled.
 - FY 2025–26 (so far): 16 databases, 5 journals canceled.
 - Total projected savings: \$555,000.
- Decision Criteria: duplication, relevance to curriculum, usage cost-per-use analysis, and disciplinary balance.
- Encourage faculty feedback via liaison librarians or the Library Collections Budget webpage (<https://libguides.calstatela.edu/librarycollectionsbudget>)
- Additional cancellation expected by December renewal cycle; library aims to maintain transparency and solicit departmental input.

Dean Rodriguez noted the library's Collection allocation dropped from 30% to 7% of general fund over nine years and personnel has been reduced 25% in five years. He urged the review of student success fee allocations, as library receives none of the ~70M annual funds and advocates for 1-2% reallocation toward Collections.

Members requested continued agenda discussion on overall library funding sustainability with Holly Yu invited back at next meeting for continued Q&A and discussion.

9. Proposed University Library Code of Conduct (LS 25-01)

Not discussed due to lack of time.

10. Open Access Policy (LS 25-02)

Not discussed due to lack of time.

11. Next Meeting – October 23, 2025

12. The meeting adjourned (Porter) at 12:10 p.m.