

Creating an Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Library Resources

On December 19, Provost Seel forwarded to the deans, department chairs, and to me a message from Library Director Ellen Marks, announcing that the library would cancel Elsevier and Springer electronic journals in 2015 and would cancel Wiley's electronic journals in 2016.

On December 30, Dr. Jingfeng Jiang in the Department of Biomedical Engineering asked that the Senate address this issue. Section III.F.4.b.iv of the Senate's Constitution indicates that "The Senate has the responsibility to review, make recommendations, initiate, and participate in the formulation of policy and procedures" for "The J.R. Van Pelt Library, computing facilities, audiovisual support, E.R. Lauren Bookstore, Seaman Museum, etc. as they affect scholarly, instructional, and research activities." Hence, this issue is a "B-List" item, one on which the Senate can only make recommendations on (not *establish*) policies and procedures.

In my January 4, 2015 email message to the Senate list, I said that I would recommend the creation of an ad hoc committee to address this issue. Consequently, the Senate's Executive Committee proposes creating a Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Library Resources, composed of the following people, as well as any other senators or alternates who want to participate:

Senator Sarah Lucchesi, Library

Senator Bruce Lee, Biomedical Engineering and Research Policy Committee

Senator Don Beck, Physics

Senator Robert Froese, Forestry and Research Policy Committee

Alternate Scott Marratto, Humanities and Academic and Instructional Policy Committee

The committee will elect its own chair.

The Executive Committee proposes the following charge for this committee:

1. Propose a resolution to the immediate issue: cancellation of Elsevier and Springer electronic journals in 2015 and of Wiley electronic journals in 2016; and
2. Propose procedures by which such decisions should be made in the future.

The committee should complete its work (by way of submitting proposals to the Senate) not later than the Senate's March 4 meeting.

As is indicated in section I.E of the Senate's Bylaws, ad hoc committees must be approved by the Senate:

E. Senate Temporary and Ad Hoc Committees

1. Within the areas of Senate authority but outside the responsibilities of the standing committees, matters may arise requiring committee action. The Senate shall establish temporary or ad hoc committees in such cases.

2. Membership of temporary or ad hoc committees

a. In those matters for which the Senate has specific constitutional authority to establish and review policy, membership of temporary or ad hoc committees shall conform to the stipulations for membership in standing committees.

b. In other matters, the membership of temporary or ad hoc committees shall be approved by the Senate.

3. After the Senate approves the formation of a temporary or ad hoc committee, the President shall read into the Senate minutes the charge to that committee.