



2.3. A member requested a copy of the current Library Strategy document.

**(Action: Secretary)**

### **3. Terms of Reference (Paper 1-02)**

3.1. LC noted at this first meeting of the session its terms of reference, constitution and membership for 2022-23.

3.2. The Chair welcomed new members of the LC: Mr Hamza Ahmed, Professor Duncan Brumby, and Professor Rob Cox.

3.3. The Chair informed the LC that its membership had been noted to have presented a poor gender balance and invited members of the Committee to suggest methods by which this might be improved. After discussion, it was agreed that this matter would be reviewed when Committee vacancies had occurred.

## **Part II: Strategic Items for Discussion**

### **4. Report of the Pro-Vice-Provost (UCL Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science) (1-03)**

4.1. Dr Paul Ayris, Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS) introduced the paper, which focussed on the Key Performance Areas of the Library Strategy and measured performance against those themes since the last meeting of LC. The following key points were highlighted:

- a. It was noted that the Library had performed exceptionally well in the 2022 NSS survey with Learning Resources having scored the highest mark of all the main categories measured by the NSS and the top two scores in UCL's top-scoring questions – i.e. Library Resources have supported learning well (86.6%); and access to course-specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software, collections) (87.2%). These results were noted to have returned the Library to its pre-pandemic levels of success.
- b. It was noted that the Library's finance strategy had indicated that unless efficiencies had been achieved over the following four years the Library's budget would be overspent. It was noted that financial predictions had indicated that this figure would be would amount to £328m of debt for the whole of UCL. The Committee was informed that targets had been set, centrally, at 8% of the budget, i.e. £2.6m. Discussions related to the targets were noted to be ongoing.
- c. Mr Thomas Turner, Finance Director, Central and Professional Services, observed that increased inflation rates would present heightened future utilities costs but noted that many of these fees had been fixed. Whilst it was also noted that the UMC had requested efficiencies across UCL to bridge budgetary gaps over the next four years, the Chair observed that the Library's budget would be a fraction of UCL's overall income and that

a small increase in funding would be considered helpful. The forum for further discussion of this matter would be the Academic Committee.

- 4.2. The following points were raised in discussion:
- a. The Chair congratulated LCCOS colleagues on the successful results of the 2022 NSS and asked if they could be advertised and celebrated across all UCL libraries. Dr Paul Ayris, Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS) responded by noting that this would be managed by Mr Ben Meunier, Director of Operations (Library, Culture, Collections & Open Science). A member suggested that the results might also be highlighted on the Library's website landing page.
  - b. A member asked if the Library was in receipt of any endowments. Dr Paul Ayris, Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS) responded by observing that endowment funds had amounted to circa £10k per annum and that these could be incorporated into the Library's financial strategy. It was also noted that events and other such projects could be entertained in order to increase revenue and further discussion of this would be held outside the meeting.
  - c. A member suggested that an increase in free online resources could be made, in addition to the identification of key strategic projects/items that could be offered for philanthropic support; both of these suggestions were noted to have previously been supported by Professor Geraint Rees, Vice Provost of Research, Innovation and Global Engagement.
  - d. Dr Paul Ayris, Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS) informed the Committee that UCL had begun a programme to commission its own textbooks and that these could ultimately replace cost on textbook provision.
- 4.3. The Library Committee noted the contents of the Report.

## **5. Commercial Licensing Activity Undertaken by UCL LCCOS (Paper 1-04)**

- 5.1. Mr Martin Moyle, Director of Services, UCL LCCOS, presented a paper that had built on an oral briefing provided at the previous meeting of Library Committee, in June 2022, on LCCOS's digital commercial licensing partnerships. The following key points were highlighted:
- a. The paper was noted to have provided further detail about LCCOS's licensing programme, including typical contractual terms, current projects and forecasted income.
  - b. It was noted that the licensing programme had achieved curatorial benefits and that UCL Library's profile has been improved by association with commercial licensing in the GLAM (Gallery-Library-Archive-Museum) sector.
- 5.2. The Library Committee noted the contents of the paper.





substantive posts. After discussion, it was agreed that the Chair and Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS) would approach relevant committees to have furthered discussion of the matter.

**(Action: Chair and Pro-Vice-Provost (LCCOS))**

7.3. The Library Committee noted the contents of the Report.

**8. Update on Springer Nature negotiations and UKRI open access monograph requirement (Paper 1-06)**

8.1. Ms Catherine Sharp, Open Access Funding Manager, Library Services presented a paper that provided an update on two current open access issues: the UK negotiations with Springer Nature and the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) open access monograph requirements. The following key points were highlighted:

- a. The current Springer Nature agreement would end on 31 December and robust negotiations with Springer Nature had been ongoing for a year. It was noted that

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- b. Arts & Humanities and Social & Historical Sciences Joint FLC – 8 June 2022 (unconfirmed)
- c. Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment FLC – 12 May 2022
- d. Faculty of Laws FLC – 18 March 2022
- e. School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) Library Committee – 4 May 2022

### **13. Date of the next meeting**

13.1. The next meeting would take place in Term 2 on 7 February 2022 at 14.00pm.

Mr Douglas Bertram, Library Committee Secretary  
November 2022