

University of Oregon Libraries
University Library Committee (ULC)
Winter Meeting, 2017–2018 Academic Year
Friday, January 19, 2018
8:45 a.m.–9:45 a.m.
Camilla Leach Room, 2nd floor of Design Library

AGENDA

Attendance: Helen Chu, Sara DeWaay, Chris Eckerman, John Bellamy Foster, Shelley Harshe, Courtney Munther, Michael Najjar, Suzanne Rowe, Ed Teague, Chuck Theobald, Mark Watson

Absent: Blair Barnes, Juanita Devereaux, Michael Koscho, Adriene Lim, Larry Wayte

Public Artwork discussion (Ed Teague)

- The Knight Library Public Art Task Force was formed in 2017 to provide the community with better documentation about the historic building and to identify opportunities to respond to the art while upholding the university's values of intellectual freedom and artistic expression:
 - Phase 1 (completed May 2017): Creation of a comprehensive Historic Knight Library: Art and Architecture [research guide](#)
 - Phase 2 (current phase, approx. January-May 2018): Design of a collaborative process for inviting and commissioning a selected number of original, creative works from the UO community, to enable presentation of contemporary responses or countervailing reactions to the works
- Question of how to address controversial Knight Library art, particularly the murals and corresponding inscriptions in east and west stairwells
- [Public Art, Cultural Memory, and Anti-Racism Forum](#)
 - Tuesday, January 30, 3:30-5:00, Knight Library Browsing Room
 - A forum for interested students, faculty, staff, and community members to provide input to help the phase 2 cohort of the task force frame their work
 - Schedule will include opening remarks by Adriene Lim, remarks by Dr. Laura Pulido (Head of Ethnic Studies Department), a historic art overview by Ed Teague (Head of Design Library), and an open and facilitated discussion
- Committee discussion
 - Hierarchy of the mural (bottom to top) is disturbing; mural is blatantly exclusive
 - Suggestion of some members was to relocate the mural to a space that allows for a richer historical context and counterpoints; Knight Library is on the National Register of Historic Places, which complicates possible removal
 - The task force reviewed how other universities have addressed similar issues on their campuses: multiple decisions, including covering up the art, putting it in historical context/discussion, moving it elsewhere, etc.
 - Please send thoughts and ideas to Adriene

Artists' Books Collection (Sara DeWaay)

- [Research Guide](#) for Artists' Books
- Online [collection of artists' books in Oregon Digital](#) (over half of the collection's items are on Oregon Digital; the rest will be added soon)

Note: ULC minutes are posted to the [UO Scholar's Bank](#)