

**Annual report of the Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee (FSLAC)**  
**Presented 4 May 2021 by Christopher Brown, FSLAC Chair**

- The Committee met three times in the 2020-2021 term of the Senate, and minutes of the meetings are posted to the Senate Website. Issues we discussed in this term of the Senate are covered in the minutes, and the Committee members welcome input and are happy to field questions.
- Much of our work has involved providing input to the Provost concerning a national search for a new system-wide Vice-Provost of Library Services who will also serve as the Dean of the Main Campus Library. We also restated our willingness to serve in the search process; this includes asking that select members of the FSLAC be named to the search committee.
- Related to the search were two meetings of special note, a listening session that Interim Dean Terpis held in which she asked NMSU faculty for input on issues of concern to faculty, and a meeting of the FSLAC and the external review team that Provost Carol Parker brought to campus. Both meetings explored issues of internal and external communication, how the Library can best meet the research and teaching needs of faculty, and the manner by which decisions of the Collections Team are made and shared with the NMSU community.
- Two Senate memorials dealing with Library issues were developed and passed in the period of report, and details are provided below:
  - [09-20/21: Memorial in support of the NMSU Library as budget realignment discussions unfold](#) – This memorial outlined the need for a functioning research Library at NMSU that can support NMSU’s efforts to achieve R01 Carnegie status and support research and teaching elements of the LEADS 2025 strategic plan. The memorial specifically called for no further cuts to the Library budget and an increase in funding for the NMSU Library’s materials budget to the median of peer institutions noted in the memorial.
  - [Proposition 16-20/21-Faculty Senate memorial objecting to library budget reductions which resulted in cutting 433 scholarly research journals](#) – This memorial was developed as a vocal expression of protest to this decision, both the nature of the decision itself, and the manner by which the decision was made and shared with the campus community. Lively discussions occurred between Library leadership and select NMSU faculty, and the final version of the memorial reflected a joint commitment by Library leadership and the FSLAC to work on engagement, the implementation of “just in time” journal access, and calls to NMSU’s Central Administration for enhanced funding that would support efforts to achieve R01 Carnegie status and support research and teaching elements of the LEADS 2025 strategic plan.
- Put simply, members of the FSLAC continue to be “on the job” - working to contribute to discussions on the search process for the new Vice Provost of Library Services, and providing input to Library leadership on issues of concern to Committee members.
- I thank all Committee members for their energy and service to the Library, the Senate, and the University. I extend special thanks to Samantha Villa (Director, NMSU-Carlsbad

Library) for serving as Vice-Chair, and Margaret Goehring (Associate Professor, Department of Art) for serving as Secretary.