

Final Minutes

Meeting of Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee Friday, 30 April 2021 – Zoom (see below)

Attending: Susan Beck, Meg Goehring, Katherine Terpis, Chris Brown, John Mullen, Michael Hyman, Ellen Bosman, David Irvin, Lori Saiki, Caiti Steele, Samantha Villa, Kelly Jenks

- Briefing on external review sessions = all FSLAC members that made the sessions
 - Chris: Well organized, informative, useful for informing the search moving forward
 - Discussion about the report: Will the report be shared with the committee and library?
 - Susan: in the past external reviews have been shared with the campus, including our past review in 2011; we should encourage the Provost to continue in this
 - Ellen: some of library faculty have real concerns about the Provost not sharing the report
 - If the purpose was to get ideas about what to find in a dean, why then can we not see it, or is something else going on?
 - ACTION: Chris will enact a confidential poll on FSLAC committee thoughts on making the report public; depending on the results, will work to put together a memorial to submit to the Provost
 - If we do submit a memorial to the Provost and she says no, what then? Do we go through FOIA?
 - ACTION: John will consult with the Parliamentarian about how the Robert's Rules will impact FSLAC if the report is obtained through FOIA
 - There is a problem in understanding the role that library faculty play with Academic Research (such as the recent attempt with library faculty attending a CADRE meeting; it was decided the Open Meetings Act did not apply in this case). We need to push the issue of open meetings on the campus.
 - ACTION: Michael and John will meet with Chris to work on ideas as to how to do this
 - Besides the Open Meetings Act, there is the second and related issue of NM's version of FOIA (<https://legal.nmsu.edu/inspection-of-nmsu-public-records/>); these reports were funded by state monies, therefore they should not be confidential (if they aren't specifically dealing with personnel)
- Updates on budget and Just in Time planning – Kate and Library staff
 - Phase 1 cuts (2.5%) are going to be applied to the FY 2021 purchase (permanent cut)
 - Budget for FY 2022 has not been fully determined; at the moment it is flat, but President has indicated putting more resources into this, but nothing determined yet

- Additional funds requested to support ILL and re-hiring to replace lost positions in that area to bolster “Just in Time” acquisition
- Library Listening Sessions: Kate will do a thematic analysis of this and key take-aways to create responses to address the most crucial issues (e.g. Drop-in boot camps that are discipline specific for faculty to boost outreach; Two faculty searches to boost outreach and connecting)
- Response from Central Administration on Senate memorial on journal cuts
 - See https://facultysenate.nmsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2021/04/16-2021-Transmittal-Administrative-Action-routing-packet_Signed.pdf
 - Provost has acknowledged receipt, as have the President and Chancellor
 - Provost attached as her response to the memorial a memo she had sent out in February, prior to the memorial
 - Points 2 & 4 of the memorial ask for making public the metrics in making these reduction decisions; complete title list cancellations (not just by department) and also to search by cost-per-journal, department, phone numbers, etc. How is this information going to be shared?
 - The data are available and can be shared, the question is how—modify the database, or use a simple spread sheet?
 - There is a question as to whether the library can share this;
 - ACTION: Kate will follow up with the Provost about sharing this information (because the Provost’s memo does not address this, as it pre-dates the request). Will work on this next week
 - Susan: this type of information is typically shared by academic libraries
 - Chris argues whichever method puts the minimum demand on staff time. If Kate needs help from us, please let FSLAC know. Also we should all read the Provost’s memo in more detail
- Update on document analyzing library costs associated with new degree programs – Susan
 - Ways in which this should be approached
 - UPAC has pretty much only been dealing with proposals of changes to existing programs that stacked up in past 9 months and haven’t started dealing with new program proposals, so this is a good time to set up a process to providing this information
 - Library has been working on a process and form by which such analysis can be done: Collections scope internally to see what exists that would be the best fit for the proposed program and to determine what the lacunae are and what the costs would be to support acquiring them
 - Various cost-sharing ideas for addressing these costs are being considered
 - ACTION: Kate will email this draft form to the committee for input and Susan will share the draft with UPAC for their input

- Chris: considerable discussion has occurred in Graduate Council to make proposals as robust and detailed as possible before it goes to the state. Their form may also require library resources; Chris will double-check on this
- Ideas for external fund raising to support Library -
 - The library already has a giving button on its website
 - Can a micro-task force be created to address development officer support?
 - What the library is currently doing
 - Appeal letter for archives
 - Appeal for technical services
 - Much of our work is gifts-in-kind
 - Development officer, who also works with Chancellor AND President's budget, and really only addresses high money donors; new arrangement whereby the library is expected to pay 50% of this person's salary (rather than 33%). This is simply not possible
 - ACTION: Kate will update us on this issue of how Development is going to be done and what the MOU actually entails at the summer meeting
- Potential impact of migration to Cascade to online Library access
 - Online databases aren't affected by this, because they aren't on Cascade
 - ACTION: Kate will update the committee on the process at the next meeting
- Lack of mention of Library in updated LEADS 2025
 - Most recent update dated April 8th; research appears far more as a keyword than is "teaching", "economy"; it is mentioned in all but one goal and is its own goal. While the 2019 plan mentioned several research entities, nowhere was the library mentioned. In the 2021 update draft, the list of research entities was expanded but the library is still not explicitly mentioned. How to address this?
 - David: our dept unearthed reports that showed correlation between R01 status and library funding was interlinked (shared with URC chair); these should also be shared up the line as well
 - In the Town Hall meeting on the budget last week, one of the slides did show there was an awareness of strategic investment in the library; see https://president.nmsu.edu/files/2021/04/NMSU_Budget_Townhall_Apr-2021.4-26-21.pdf
 - The committee supports doing research to bring this to upper administration:
 - ACTION: Ellen will lead a sub-committee and package the research into a concise statement to admin; David will volunteer; Meg will too (note that the budget presentation included mention of the Library, and therefore should be in the plan as well)
 - Leads2025, 2021 version is still in draft form; Deans will be doing a retreat with the President to bolster the plan, and Kate might be able to address this at this retreat
 - This could be voted on by email, and then Kate can submit it through her channels.

- Other related issues
 - consider more collaboration with the VPR regarding <https://research.nmsu.edu/about/EmergingAreasofResearchOpportunity.html> (Kelly will bring this up at URC)
 - meeting with interim dean Cooper for proposal for a new Research Center (AKA the proposed merger of HSS and Education), and nothing was stated about the library; nothing about how the library is crucial to the development of grants. This also needs to be addressed.

Next meeting - no date is set, but members agreed to try to attend a summer meeting likely to be held in mid to late June. Chair Brown will send a Doodle poll in early June to explore dates/times that work.