

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS

(Revised 6 March 2020)

Background and Purpose

In discussions among select members of the Faculty Senate and other faculty during the 2017-2018 Senate term, the idea of a committee of faculty committed to supporting Library staff and leadership arose. The Senate had such a committee in the past, but the committee disbanded in the early 2000s. Based on extensive research, select Senators developed Senate legislation rebooting such a committee, and Senate Proposition 28-17/18, Memorial in support of Developing a Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee (FSLAC), passed unanimously on 3 May 2018.

The Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee (FSLAC) provides input to Library leadership decisions regarding Library acquisitions, access to Library services, and other Library issues of interest to faculty and Library administration. The committee also provides support to the Library in advancing efforts to secure needed resources to meet the Library's mission¹ and to provide faculty-informed input into decisions in the above areas.

Membership

Elected representatives from the following groups on campus make up the membership of the FSLAC. All members serve staggered three-year terms, with the provision that members can serve 2 terms before stepping off the Committee prior to serving again.² One member will be elected by the larger group to serve as the Committee Chair for a two-year term, and another member will be elected to serve as Vice Chair, also for a 2-year term. In addition, one member will be elected to serve as FSLAC Secretary (also for a 2 year term), and the Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes of the meetings and working with the Chair and Vice-Chair to review, finalize, and post the minutes to the Committee. Minutes will be shared with Committee members, posted to the Faculty Senate Website, and shared with all Library faculty. Elections will be held in the first month of the fall academic semester of even number years. Faculty are selected for membership on the committee through election by members in each group noted below, in the same manner that Faculty Senators are elected to represent Senate Voting Groups. Members are expected to attend meetings and work on relevant issues with other members. Senate Voting Groups are noted below:

¹Details of the NMSU Library Mission Statement can be found at <http://lib.nmsu.edu/documents/MissionVisionValues.pdf>.

² For the first term of the FSLAC, to allow for staggered terms, some members will serve 2-year terms and other members will serve 3-year terms; the determination who serves 2 vs. 3-year terms will be done by the drawing of lots.

- One elected faculty member from each of the Colleges of Business, Education, Engineering, and Health and Social Services; Arts and Sciences has 2 members, given the number of departments and complexity of the subject matter involved.
- One elected faculty member from the combined units of the Cooperative Extension Service, the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, and the Agriculture Experiment Station;
- One elected faculty member representing the four community colleges;
- Two elected faculty members from the University Library; Library faculty shall not serve as committee chair or vice chair;
- One elected faculty member from non-tenure track faculty;
- One representative each from ASNMSU and the Graduate Student Council (two students representatives in total);
- One elected faculty representative from the Graduate Council;
- One representative from the University Research Council.
- The Dean of the Library will serve on the committee in an ex-officio capacity, as will one person representing the Directors of the community college libraries, the Library Senator, and one person representing NMSU Online.

Meetings

Senate leadership will work with Library leadership to convene regular meetings of the FSLAC, these being at least one meeting per semester. Quorum is met when a simple majority of membership is present, and quorum is required for any formal action to be advanced by a vote among the FSLAC. The Chair and Vice Chair of the FSLAC will work with Library leadership to discuss and explore relevant issues and to develop concise, actionable agendas. Anticipated topics for the FSLAC to explore are noted below:

- Ways to address unmet needs in research units;
- Relevant input into acquisitions, collections, access, information literacy, and other Library services and policies;
- Ideas to advance deeper and broader support (including financial resources) of the NMSU Library within the Central Administration and the NMSU Board of Regents;
- Ideas on how faculty can help the limited number of Library subject matter experts provide the guidance and support university researchers need; and
- Other Library issues of interest to faculty members and the Library administration.

Passage and revision of the Bylaws

The Bylaws were drafted by select members of the FSLAC and vetted by members, and both initial passage and revisions will be voted on by the members of the FSLAC.