

Minutes

Meeting of Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee Friday, 6 March 2020, 10:30-11:30am, Milton Hall 85

- Discussion of adding the Library Senator as ex officio member – All
 - The committee unanimously approved revising the bylaws to make the Library Senator an ex officio member of the committee.
- Load and related holdings issues - Alisa Gonzalez
 - The second floor of Zuhl Library is overcrowded with materials.
 - The overcrowding was posing a safety issue (shelves were beginning to bow outwards) and damaging the materials.
 - The Library has begun a process of removing some materials from its collections, starting with the "A"s.
 - In deciding whether to remove a holding, the Library considers how damaged it is and how frequently it gets used.
- Brief introduction of [*2019 State of Academic Libraries Benchmark Survey*](#) – Chris leading all
 - A discussion was held on the survey conducted by ExLibris.
 - It was noted that ExLibris is a commercial provider of library information systems, and thus may not be entirely unbiased in its results.
 - Among the results discussed were projections about budgets (p. 2, 6), library mission statements (p. 3), and the importance of research (p. 4).
- Input to Provost Parker on what you would like to see in new Dean - All
 - Not discussed due to time
 - Input provided by email prior to the meeting:
 - I am interested in someone who will look seriously at the interface of the library—both digitally and as physical spaces—to its users, a management style that values the professional assessments of library staff, has a track record to developing resources, and is able to build consensus among competing agendas and disparate groups of users.
 - How will the university deal with the on-going crisis of budget for library resources? Given the exponential and perpetual increase of database costs—most especially STEM-centric databases—how will the university support resources for other areas? Expecting us to rely on ILL and electronic delivery as a primary means of support is not sustainable, and it seriously compromises research in the humanities, fine arts and social sciences.
 - How will the university confront the staffing shortages at the library, particularly in regards to collections development?
- Interim Dean Terpis could not attend the meeting, but provided an update. See attached.
- Feedback from committee members on the Library's Strategic Plan was sent via email and compiled into a memo to Dean Titus. See attached for the memo.

NMSU Library Information Update to FSLAC

March 5, 2020

From the desk of Kate Terpis, Interim Dean NMSU Library

The Pluto: New Frontiers for a New Horizon event

The Pluto: New Frontiers for a New Horizon event celebrating the 90th anniversary of the discovery of the planet by NMSU Professor Clyde Tombaugh was attended on Wednesday Feb. 26 by 100 people and featured speakers from the Lowell Observatory, the NMSU Astronomy Department, and members of Clyde Tombaugh's family. Two library employees spoke about the print and digital collections of Tombaugh's papers and the program also featured original photographic plates, letters from Tombaugh to his family, and one of Tombaugh's hand built telescopes. Concluding the event was an opportunity for stargazing.

Archives and Special Collections department-spring intern for Sen. Pete V. Domenici papers

The Archives and Special Collections department has hired an intern for the spring semester who is assisting with the processing of the Sen. Pete V. Domenici papers. The intern, Emma Rogers, is an undergraduate student in the Department of Government. She has been processing the massive series of press files, about 150 boxes worth, generated and collected by Domenici's offices during his 35 years serving in Congress. The Archives and Special Collections department frequently offers paid internships to NMSU undergraduate and graduate students, providing valuable experiential learning opportunities in the areas of archival science, research and cultural resource management.

Ideas/Compliments/Concerns Form

<https://liblc.nmsu.edu/feedback/>

NMSU Library has an online feedback for submissions for Ideas, Compliments/Concerns. We like to hear feedback on how we are doing!

Library Tour

If there is an interest in a tour of the Library for committee members, members of the Management Team and I would be happy to showcase Branson and Zuhl Library.

Upcoming Events

New Mexico State University will host a panel discussion for Sunshine Week 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 at the NMSU Zuhl Library, third floor. This year's topic will be "DEAD or ALIVE: Will Local News Survive? A discussion of journalism's future." More details at:

<https://newscenter.nmsu.edu/Articles/view/14119/nmsu-s-sunshine-week-to-discuss-the-future-of-journalism>

Dean Titus,

Below, I share with you the input Meg Goehring and I have received in response to the request from Dean Murphy and the FSLAC to faculty to provide feedback to the Library's strategic plan, with a special eye to how this can help support LEADS 2025 and Beyond Borders. You all have done a comprehensive job in looking at many areas, and your work could be a model for other units to follow. Below, we share some specific ideas to supplement the work you have done in the areas of resources needed, the role of subject specialists, and collections development.

- Overall resources devoted to the Library – We have heard much about the need to support LEADS 2025 and the move to earn back our R01 Carnegie designation. NMSU cannot do this without adequate resources from Central to support the Library's core mission. GO bonds, Library development efforts, and the 2.5% earmark on IDC funds help, but these funding streams are not adequate to help us meet these goals.
- Collections development – numerous faculty have noted the key role of subject specialists in helping Library leadership identify campus needs, and the major reduction of these lines in the last 5 years is of great concern. Although your small but dedicated Collections Development Team focus on the overall effort of collections development, various voices in the NMSU research community do not see the breadth of scope and the depth of subject specific knowledge needed to meet our needs. We strongly support securing the resources from Central to fill these needed lines. Given the major commitment to Beyond Borders that NMSU is making, hiring a dedicated Latin American and US-Mexico Border specialist to replace the loss of Molly Molloy, our internationally recognized past specialist, is especially key in this effort.
- Related to the need for subject specialists is the need for a clear plan for collection development that does DIRECTLY relate to what the faculty are currently teaching and researching. At the moment, the library is relying on the “request a purchase” process as a guiding force; although this form is a useful tool, it cannot be the substitution for collections development discussions between research and Library faculty. That is what the purpose of subject specialists is, to consult directly with faculty to identify and help meet research needs.
- We are also concerned about the ability of the Library to meet the needs of Interlibrary Loan and our perceived assumption that ILL can fill the gap that

continued reductions in serial holdings pose. Numerous faculty and departments express concerns that these reduced holdings pose barriers to advancing both current and future research. Not having the essential journals available upon publication puts a strain on faculty in keeping up in their fields. Put simply, we do not see mention in the Library's strategic plan for augmenting the staffing in ILL to accommodate the greater reliance we are forced to take on this system. We respectfully ask that this need be clearly documented in the plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these thoughts as you wrap up your strategic plan and submit to Central. Given the key role the Library plays in efforts to support LEADS 2025 and the move to earn back our R01 Carnegie designation, we share these comments with The Provost.

Respectfully yours.

Christopher Brown, Chair
Faculty Senate Library Advisory Committee