

Proposition 16-20/21 - Faculty Senate memorial objecting to library budget reductions which resulted in cutting 433 scholarly research journals

Date Submitted: 1 March 2021 (revision as of this date)

Sponsor(s): Brown (A&S), Alexander (A&S), Bronstein (A&S), Burkardt (NTT), Cull (A&S), Engelhardt (A&S), Finlator (A&S), Flinchbaugh (CoB), Greenfield (A&S), Hamzeh (A&S), Hanley (A&S), Hanson (ACES), Houde (A&S), Hyman (CoB), Lehnert-LeHouillier (CoEd), Mabry (A&S), Mullen (ENG), Ortiz (A&S), Rayson (A&S), Saiki (HSS), Sharp-Hoskins (A&S), Shuster (Charles - A&S), Stochaj (ENG), Stolte (A&S), Vaughn (DACC), Voisine (A&S), and Walker (A&S).

Proposed Committee: N/A - Faculty Affairs

Assigned Committee: N/A - Faculty Affairs

Prior Approvals: N/A, this is a memorial.

Proposal Type (please check one):

- Memorial
- Proposition to change policy (please include ARP/RPM reference(s) from <https://arp.nmsu.edu/>)
- Proposition for curriculum addition/change (please include all curriculum change forms and signature pages as outlined here: <https://provost.nmsu.edu/forms/>)
- Other (please describe below)

Whereas, the NMSU Faculty Senate recently affirmed strong support for adequate funding of the NMSU Library needed to meet our research and teaching mission (Senate Memorial 90-20/21, Memorial in support of the NMSU Library as budget realignment discussions unfold);

Whereas this memorial was positively received and endorsed by NMSU's Central Administration in their formal response to said memorial, noting that the University Administration has "been actively working with the Library Dean and members of the President's leadership team to identify additional revenue for the library budget."

Whereas, efforts by NMSU to achieve Carnegie R01 research status and advance LEADS 2025 Goal #2, Elevate Research and Creativity, require a robust and sustainable research Library;

Whereas, maintaining current subscriptions to scholarly research journal holdings is a key and crucial element to sustaining Library research and teaching capabilities;

Whereas, the recent decision by the leadership of the NMSU Library to cut 433 research journals has numerous negative impacts on the research and teaching mission of NMSU; and

Whereas, the loss of easy, local access to high impact research journal literature negatively impacts faculty members' ability to secure research grants, to support completion of degree by students at NMSU, to achieve promotion and tenure, and to advance their careers;

Therefore, on this 4th day of March 2021, the NMSU Faculty Senate formally issues the following statement in regards to the decision by NMSU Library leadership to cut 433 scholarly research journal subscriptions:

- Decisions of this nature are best reached with active engagement and conversation between Library and NMSU's Central Administration and other NMSU faculty in a manner consistent with the principle of shared governance, as established in the Introduction to the NMSU Administrative Rule and Procedures.
- We respectfully call on NMSU Library leadership to share the methodology and metrics used in their decision making, in a manner similar to what the Library has shared in past serials reductions projects.
- We also respectfully call on NMSU Library Leadership to work with faculty to develop and implement means of active engagement. Having Library faculty actively engage with departmental or college liaisons on a regular basis and holding Town Halls or similar campus-wide outreach events are specific actions that could advance such communication.
- We also respectfully call on NMSU and Library leadership to share a complete list of title cancellations showing the total financial impact, as well as the impact by department, or to modify the searchable database to include cost per title, the ability to search by fund number and/or department, and the ability to see the total cost of all cancellations.
- We also respectfully call on NMSU's Central Administration to devise and implement a sustainable funding model for the Library that support efforts to achieve R01 status and advance LEADS 2025. The recently announced plan that the Provost and Interim Library Dean shared with the Campus Community on 24 February 2021 is a starting point. Insuring adequate financial resources are in such a budget to support an adequate number of Library faculty is needed to support the enhanced engagement detailed above.
- Faculty also respectfully call on library leadership to develop a plan by which the Library will ensure future access of faculty to scholarly journal articles. Faculty look forward to future discussions concerning the details of how this plan will be implemented.
- Put simply, we must see adequate levels of funding for the NMSU Library, specifically increased funding for the NMSU Library's materials budget to the median of peer institutions in a manner that will support needed journal and database subscriptions. Detailed data on peers are noted below.

2019 NMSU LIBRARY MATERIALS BUDGET: A PEER COMPARISON

PEER INSTITUTIONS	INSTITUTIONAL BUDGET	LIBRARY MATERIALS BUDGET	MATERIALS BUDGET AS % OF UNIV BUDGET	FACULTY FTE	STUDENT ENROLLMENT	MATERIALS BUDGET PER FACULTY	MATERIALS BUDGET PER STUDENT	CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION
University of Arizona	\$ 277,600,000.00	\$ 16,429,369.00	5.92%	2,868	44,577	\$ 5,728.51	\$ 368.56	R1
Texas Tech University	\$ 156,712,855.00	\$ 10,816,479.00	6.90%	1,767	38,742	\$ 6,121.38	\$ 279.19	R1
Iowa State University	\$ 230,000,000.00	\$ 10,125,253.00	4.40%	2,165	33,372	\$ 4,676.79	\$ 303.41	R1
University of Wyoming	\$ 222,750,000.00	\$ 8,849,522.00	3.97%	1,000	12,249	\$ 8,849.52	\$ 722.47	R2
Washington State University	\$ 233,750,000.00	\$ 8,072,286.00	3.45%	1,734	31,607	\$ 4,655.30	\$ 255.40	R1
University of New Mexico	\$ 312,563,674.00	\$ 7,027,882.00	2.25%	1,945	22,729	\$ 3,613.31	\$ 309.20	R1
Utah State University	\$ 220,450,232.00	\$ 6,557,205.00	2.97%	1,103	27,810	\$ 5,944.88	\$ 235.79	R2
University of Nevada-Reno	\$ 163,095,775.00	\$ 6,269,527.00	3.84%	1,155	20,993	\$ 5,428.16	\$ 298.65	R1
University of Idaho ¹	\$ 180,200,000.00	\$ 5,930,528.00	3.29%	751	11,926	\$ 7,896.84	\$ 497.28	R2
Oregon State University	\$ 121,751,891.00	\$ 5,928,164.00	4.87%	2,090	31,719	\$ 2,836.44	\$ 186.90	R1
Kansas State University	\$ 237,800,000.00	\$ 5,564,769.00	2.34%	1,367	21,719	\$ 4,070.79	\$ 256.22	R1
University of Texas-El Paso ²	\$ 225,869,731.00	\$ 4,770,000.00	2.11%	803	25,177	\$ 5,940.22	\$ 189.46	R1
New Mexico State University³	\$ 113,000,600.00	\$ 2,957,504.00	2.62%	798	14,296	\$ 3,706.15	\$ 206.88	R2
Notes								
¹ ACRL Metrics 2019 shows UofI library materials budget is \$165,084.00 but the UofI's website lists \$5,930,528.00								
² ACRL Metrics 2019 shows UTEP's library materials budget is 2,940,780.00 but a phone call reveals additional funds from student fees, endowments and gifts, and monies from UT system to support major database subscriptions increases their budget to \$4,770,000.00								
³ NMSU library's materials budget includes student fee monies, 2.5% of IDC, and gifts and endowments								
Data Sources								
ACRL Metrics 2019--library materials budgets								
University websites--institutional budgets								
NCES-IPEDS--Faculty & Student FTE								
Carnegie classifications at https://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu								