

Faculty Senate Library Committee Annual Report 2016-17

The Library Committee is a standing committee of the Faculty Senate. It was serviced by seven passionate professors this school year including:

Amy Gagnon	Physical Education and Human Performance	Chair
Elizabeth Brewer	English	Secretary
Carl Antonucci	Library Director	Ex-Officio
Charles Menoche	Music	
Roger Vogeler	Mathematical Science	
Robbin Smith	Political Science	
Rae Schipke	English	
Undergraduate Student	Vacant	
Graduate Student	Vacant	

The Library Committee met four times this year and hosted one, university-wide event. The four days that the committee met were: October 5th and November 29th, 2016, and February 6th and April 20, 2017.

Main Points of Meeting Topics:

- Library Budget Cuts- Each meeting, the committee received a report form Carl Antonucci, Library Director, regarding the cuts to the library. The main area of the budget cut that the committee helped to find solutions for was the cut to the subscriptions budget. A cut of 25% from each department was instituted. Carl's staff provided each department a complete list of journal titles, cost of subscription and usage to aid decisions to make cuts. Departments could do a 12.5% cut initially but would have to complete the 12.5% cut by the end of the school year.
- Brainstorming Strategies to Raise Money for Library- due to the substantial budget cut to the library, meeting times were spent brainstorming alternative methods to collect funding. One strategy that was implemented was the Giving Tuesday, which raised \$580 toward our goal of \$3,000.
- Renovations- through discussions regarding the latest renovations, the committee discussed ideas in order to re-acquaint students and staff to the new services and classrooms located throughout the library. One idea that proved successful was a Library Liaison's Reception. It was this reception hosted by Carl Antonucci and his staff, with leadership and facilitation from the Library Committee that provided an informational event to inform the department Library Liaisons of all that the library offers. All staff was invited including department chairs. The budget, the renovations, roles and responsibilities of the Library Liaisons as well as services were discussed. The event was attended by 25 staff members on the first day back from Spring Break.

- The “Textbook Project”- a book drive has continued from last year. The library asks for used textbooks from faculty as a donation to the library. Any used books faculty is no longer using that could aid students in learning will be donated to the library.
- Focus Group for new Library Webpage- the Library Committee was used as a focus group to provide feedback regarding the new library webpage. Sharon Clapp facilitated the focus group, which was audio recorded. Feedback was mostly positive with highlights including: Central Search, database usage and research ease.

Action Items:

- Continue to host a Library Liaison’s Reception. One reception in September and another in the spring semester.
- Create a Library Liaison’s pocket guide to help inform and instruct department library liaisons in their role and responsibilities to serve their colleagues.
- Support the library staff in any events or educational tasks as needed including feedback and ideas as we help make our library the learning center of our campus.

Recommendations: In order to fulfill our duties as a recommending committee to the vice president, the Faculty Senate Library Committee recommends the following:

- Careful reconsideration should be brought to the extensive cuts to the library. More than one department described the 25% cut to the subscriptions budget as “cutting to the bone” and “not conducive to teaching and learning.” Although some subscriptions may have been outdated and it was time to take a closer look at spending, the cut was so severe that some departments were unable to cut the full 25% without further help and guidance from the director, Carl Antonucci. The library is the heart and soul of a college campus and a catalyst to student and faculty research.
- The Faculty Senate Library Committee recommends that this question be asked during the search for the new Provost: “How will you advocate for the library and the cuts?”
- The Faculty Senate Library Committee recommends support from the Faculty Senate to meet with President Toro and the library staff. Previous appointments failed.. The committee feels it vital for the new president to walk through the library, see the renovations, meet the staff, and discuss how severely the budget cuts have affected the library processes.

New Members:

- The committee report was due before the announcement of new members. We currently have the following staff returning for their second years of service with Elizabeth Brewer as the chair and Robbin Smith as secretary.

Member	Department		Term ending
Amy Gagnon	Physical Education and Human Performance		May 2018
Elizabeth Brewer	English	Chair	May 2017
Carl Antonucci	Ex-Officio, Burritt Library		
Charles Menoche	Music		May 2018
Roger Vogeler	Mathematical Science		May 2018
Robbin Smith	Political Science	Secretary	May 2017
Rae Schipke	English		May 2018

In closing, I would like to thank Elizabeth Brewer for her extra effort as secretary and everyone on the committee for their positive brainstorming sessions. I'd also like to thank Carl Antonucci and his entire staff for their amazing work in finding creative ways to sustain a successful library during a time of financial crisis all the while providing a positive and updated facility for staff and students to learn and thrive.

This report was prepared by Amy Gagnon, Chair 2016-17.

