

Library Faculty Advisory Committee

Report to the Faculty Senate for Academic Year 2020-2021

Committee Members: Carl Antonucci (Director of Library Services; ex officio and non-voting), Heidi Hughes, Charles Menoche, Brian Osoba, Aimee Pozorski, Jason Snyder, Jeremy Visone, Michael Wizevich

Members of the Library Faculty Advisory Committee held regularly scheduled virtual meetings throughout the academic year. Two inter-related topics were the focus of the meetings: Library services usage and Budget. Similar to many other campus services, the Covid-19 pandemic had a negative effect on both topics. This report outlines the advisory committee suggestions.

Library Services Usage

The library is a central place of learning for university students, faculty, and staff. In addition to maintaining print materials (books, periodicals, newspapers) the library also maintains a wide range of subscription services that benefit research, teaching and learning. The biggest factor in justifying cost associated with these services is demonstrating use – the number of CCSU community members that access a particular book/journal/software package over a given period of time. In order to increase the use of materials the Advisory Committee designed a two-pronged agenda.

Marketing Competition

The committee met with the Marketing Club Faculty advisors to create a Marketing Competition whereby students would compete to design a marketing campaign aimed at increasing student engagement with the library. The Marketing Club was enthusiastic about this campaign competition but felt that during on-line learning during the pandemic would make the competition difficult. We agreed that we would revisit this in the next academic year when (if) we returned to campus

Library Liaisons

The advisory committee and librarians agreed that the department Library Liaisons are an invaluable asset in increasing faculty engagement with the library. We reviewed the Library Liaison Pocket Guide and discussed inviting Library Liaisons to a special meeting with the advisory committee and librarians.

Budget

The Director of Library Services expressed concern over the library's diminishing budget which has a negative impact on learning resources (books, periodicals, subscriptions) and decreasing library staff such as an acquisitions librarian.

Several ideas were discussed to help the library budget. 1) the need to increase library usage (discussed above), 2) for faculty and the Faculty Advisory Committee to advocate for an increase budget to the

Provost and/or Union, and 3) to include a 'library' item in research proposals such as the annual CSCU research grants, whereby faculty are able to 'spend' a portion of their research grant on the library services.

Due to the complex nature of budgets, this topic will be ongoing and will resume in the next academic year.

The returning committee members and the library staff look forward to returning to campus in the following academic year and an increase in library usage.

Respectfully submitted

Heidi Hughes

Co-chair