

Response to Faculty Senate Charge Fall 2023

Report Faculty Library Committee AY 2022 - 2023

This report summarizes the activities of the Library Committee based on the responsibilities detailed in the Faculty Handbook during fiscal year 2022-2023. The report is organized by the three responsibilities listed in the handbook.

A. Monitor and identify concerns of the university community as related to library services, resources, and facilities.

Members of the Library Committee meet with the professional libraries at least three times each semester during the fall 2022 semester and the spring 2023 semester. At these meetings members received reports on library services, resources, and facilities from the director and each library department. The director's report covers the library I & G budget, GO bond budget, building concerns, library services, personnel, and statewide library issues from the New Mexico Library Association and the New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries. These reports are summarized in the committee's minutes. Members asked questions about these matters. The library staff is receptive to recommendations and inquiries.

B. Review and formulate recommendations, in consultation with the Director of the Library, to meet the library needs of faculty, students, and staff.

Members of the Library Committee make recommendations to the library director as appropriate. The library director and professional librarians share recommendations from the library staff and from suggestions received from departments, students, faculty, staff, community members, and from the suggestion boxes and online form.

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C. Advise and report on:

1) the status of the library (policies, resources, services, and facilities);

Members of the Library Committee receive regular reports from the library director and librarians at every meeting. The committee chair is also sent copies of other reports such as the annual book inventory by the director. The library staff seeks input from the committee on needs that inform the library's annual revision of the strategic plan.

2) the university commitment necessary to assure that the library adequately serves the teaching, research, and public service missions of the institution.

Members of the Library Committee advise on current and developing needs of the teaching, research, and public service that would involve the library.

One specific example from 2022-2023, is the committee worked to have the Government Documents and Periodicals Librarian invited to meetings of the graduate council in order to advise on matters concerning theses and professional papers. This assures that the process runs more smoothly and graduate student needs are met (refer to FLC minutes for September 16, 2022; November 18, 2022; January 20, 2023; February 17, 2023 and April 21, 2023).

Conclusion

The committee meets regularly and works well with the library staff. The library director and professional librarians are responsive and provide requested information.

One of the challenges faced by the librarians in providing needed information included matters such as University Relations changing the path of web analytic reporting. This led to a brief gap in data that informs improvements but this has since been resolved.