

ANNUAL REPORT

University Standing Committee	<u>University Library Committee</u>
Academic Year Covered by Report	<u>2014-2015</u>
Date Report Submitted	<u>June 12, 2015</u>
Report Submitted by	<u>Dr. Walter Wessels</u>
Number of times committee met	<u>6</u>

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ITEMS/ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEE

The University Library Committee (ULC) is a Standing Committee of North Carolina State University. In 2014-2015, its membership included 11 faculty members 2 staff/EPA members, 4 graduate students, 5 undergraduate students, and an ex-officio representative from the Association of Retired Faculty. The Vice Provost and Director of Libraries also serves as an ex-officio member.

The ULC is consulted on important library issues that impact the user community. This year cuts to the collection, reduced hours of service, and the continuing backfill of D. H. Hill Library were among the major issues considered by the committee.

Collections Review and Reductions

Throughout the year, the committee received data and heard presentations on the state of the Libraries' collections. Several years of budget reductions combined with yearly inflation in the cost of journals continue to erode buying power and have resulted in the cancellation of more than 600 journals. These same factors prevent the Libraries from subscribing to new journals to keep pace with the disciplinary needs of new faculty. The University Library Committee continues to be concerned with the extent of cuts to the Libraries recurring funds, recognizing that the one-time funds provided to the Libraries cannot be used for ongoing commitments, including journal subscriptions and databases. In place of the current system, the committee is looking into methods for the ever escalating costs of maintaining the Libraries' collections to be explicitly accounted for in the University's budget process. The Faculty Senate representative on the committee reported back on faculty concerns about journal cuts and shared a Senate Resolution on Funding Library Collections (R5).

Hours of Operation

The committee heard presentations regarding the implementation of the reduction of overnight services (with Hunt Library open 24 hours Sunday and Monday and Hill open 24 hours Tuesday – Thursday). The committee reviewed data on the number of students in each building at night as well as the results of a survey of students regarding their preference do not indicate a clear preference for any alternative. Students want both libraries open at a minimum 24x5. The committee recognizes that this is dependent upon recurring funds to provide staff. The Faculty Senate representative on the committee

reported back on faculty concerns about the reduction of hours and shared a Senate Resolution on Funding Library Services (R6).

D.H. Hill backfill

The committee reviewed floorplans and heard presentations on phases of the backfill plan to be undertaken this year. In April the committee had a pre-opening visit to the new Makerspace off the lobby in D.H. Hill (planned to open in the Summers). They endorsed plans for a Faculty Research Commons in the West Wing of D.H. Hill.

“Libraries” on the University Website

Following roll out of the new university website in the Fall, the committee expressed concern about the difficulty with finding the link to the Libraries (which previously was prominent at the top of the home page). As a result of feedback, a link was added under “Resources” and under “Academics.”

Other Issues

The committee heard reports/presentations from the Institutional History Subcommittee, the Alt-Textbook Project, the Ask Us service center in D.H. Hill, Association of Research Library data and rankings, Visitors and Tours in Hunt Library, and the *Libraries Stories* project.

Committee members met as the Appeals Subcommittee in December and April to hear and rule on appeals of fines and fees from borrowers.