

## NC State University Libraries University Library Committee

November 16, 2020  
10am - 11am

**Present:** Cara Smelter, Adam Schmidt, David Goldsmith, Edward Sabornie, Gregory Raschke, Kerry Havner, Hilary Davis, Jane Hoppin, Jen Arthur, Jill Sexton, John Gadsby, Maria Gallardo-Williams, Marilyn McHugh Drath, Michael Hyman, Nina Allen, Robert Scheller, Scott Watkins, Shelley Garrigan, Samuel Cameron

### Welcome and Director's update - Greg Raschke

- We will continue to hold University Library Committee meetings virtually for the remainder of the academic year.
- Greg shared highlights from a presentation he delivered to the Board of Trustees last Friday with DELTA and the Office of Faculty Development on combined efforts to support academic continuity.
  - Many students have reported feeling a loss of community due to the lack of in-person experiences and co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as study groups, drop-in tutoring, hands-on labs and studios, and access to the Libraries.
  - Moving large lecture sections online has been less problematic, but students miss the human connection of having smaller sections and labs in person. The university's plan for the spring is to try to bring back more of those experiences.
  - Residence halls, outdoor activities, the Libraries, and the university's labs and teaching environments have been very safe physical environments this fall. The university is working to improve testing and quarantining procedures to enable more face-to-face activity.
  - Access to reliable internet is a challenge for a significant share of our student population. The Libraries is working with the Student Ombuds Service to loan a limited number of wifi hotspots to students in need. We hope to expand the program in the spring.
  - The Libraries will continue to support academic continuity this spring through technology lending, textbook scanning, providing access to electronic collections, and delivering online instruction and workshops.
- The Libraries is expanding its research-support partnerships with OIT and ORI. We will share more about this partnership in a meeting this spring.
- A committee member noted that faculty also miss the connections they build through in-person activities and encouraged the Libraries to include faculty and staff when planning virtual events for the spring.

### Collections Budget Update - Hillary Davis

- Collections Update Presentation: [go.ncsu.edu/collections-update-fall2020](https://go.ncsu.edu/collections-update-fall2020)

- The Libraries' budget for collections is \$11.6 million, about 41% of our overall budget.
  - In FY21 we have spent approximately \$200,000 on COVID-19 response items, including electronic textbooks, online resources, and streaming media.
  - We have worked with publishers to reduce inflation costs to zero, resulting in \$225,000 in savings.
- Subscriptions to journals and databases collectively make up 86% of the collections budget. We continue to see a strong ROI on our ebook packages as well as our demand-driven access for ebooks and online resources.
- The collections allocation has mostly supported our needs this semester, but an additional \$340,000 in private endowments has helped fill in the gaps.
- Our collections expenditure is approximately \$2.5 million below the median of our peers.
- Looking ahead to FY21-22, the university's financial outlook is uncertain. The Libraries is preparing for the possibility of a 5-10% cut to our collections budget next year, approximately \$600,000 - \$1.2 million.
  - If we need to make these cuts, we will pull from endowments and Facilities & Administrative (F&A) funds to mitigate any cuts to our research collections.
  - We may need to consider trimming some of our large journal packages. Our largest journal packages are Elsevier, Wiley, and Springer. Combined, these three packages make up 40% of all collections costs.
- In the spring, the University Library Committee will discuss any anticipated cuts, strategies that the Libraries would use to handle such cuts, and our plans for communicating this information to the campus community. Once we learn more about the budget situation for next fiscal year, we will survey the community to collect feedback.
- Questions regarding collections may be directed to Hilary Davis ([hmdavis4@ncsu.edu](mailto:hmdavis4@ncsu.edu)).

## Planning for spring 2021 semester - Greg Raschke

- We will slightly expand hours this spring in response to student demand, but we will not return to 24/5 hours. Closing the Libraries overnight allows staff to thoroughly clean high-contact surfaces. Staffing realities, budget limitations, and lower observed mask compliance in the evenings are other reasons for limiting building hours.
- We will continue to encourage distancing by removing furniture, placing barriers to protect staff at service points, and enforcing single occupancy in group study rooms
- We have seen 10-20% of normal building use this fall. We expect library occupancy to increase to about 30-40% of normal use this spring due to students returning to the residence halls.
- We will experiment with opening the Makerspace at Hill for limited occupancy in the spring.