

MINUTES

University Library Committee

17 February 2022

11am-12pm via Zoom

Meeting notes

1. **Call To Order** - Dr. Martin Hubbe, *Professor and Buckman Distinguished Scientist, College of Natural Resources, Chair*
2. **Opening Remarks** Greg Raschke, *Senior Vice Provost and Director of Libraries*
 - a. Introduction of new Libraries staff: Kim Duckett, *Department Head, Research Engagement*
 - b. [Research Engagement Overview](#)
3. **Libraries Budget Overview** Joe White, *Director, Finance & Business*
 - a. Joe White gave an update on the Libraries overall budget. [Presentation](#)
 - b. The Libraries' overall budget in FY 2021-22 is \$28.3M.
 - c. The first enacted state budget in three years allowed us to address equity and other salary actions that had been delayed during COVID-19.
 - d. We raised the hourly wages for student employees this year, the first raise in base pay for student assistants since 2015.
 - e. Our spending on ETF and F&A was lower than expected in FY 2020-2021 due to the uncertainty of the state budget and our preparation for possible budget cuts. Spending has rebounded this FY.
 - f. The Libraries endowment has increased to \$20.3M due to strong fundraising and market performance. We have used these funds strategically on important collections, including special collections, and student scholarships.
4. **Libraries Spaces Discussion and Feedback** Greg Raschke, Rob Rucker, *Chief Strategist for Student Success*
 - a. Discussion of how faculty needs for Libraries spaces might evolve, including in conjunction with the university Master Planning process and the development of the Integrative Sciences Building (ISB). The ISB is part of the effort to reinvigorate north campus and might affect plans for the Brickyard, food service available in the area, and the Hill Library
 - b. Greg Raschke sought input on how the libraries can increase use of the Faculty Research Commons in the Hill Library. Anecdotally we have seen a decrease in the amount of time faculty are spending on campus in general, and in this space in particular.

- c. Committee members highlighted current ways they use the space and suggested ideas for driving increased use:
 - i. Use as a refuge to carve out quiet time for intensive writing projects
 - ii. A place apart to relax in a warm and inviting spot.
 - iii. Prior to the pandemic, the Office of Faculty Development hosted writing retreats in the Hill and Hunt Faculty Research Commons. Hosting more of these types of programs as conditions permit could be one way to introduce faculty to the space.
 - iv. We could market the mini conference capacity to others on campus, like the centers. If we publicized the availability of these spaces, people would be interested in using them. Larger meeting rooms that can host more than 8 people are particularly in demand.
 - v. Hoteling—the ability to reserve a room for an entire day, could drive use for those who need a place for more than a couple of hours at a time.
- d. Greg shared a possible scenario where the planned eSports Arena might be relocated in the Hill Library’s West Wing, which would require us to relocate the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Research Commons.
 - i. Committee members felt that if the FRC is forced to relocate, it would be ok as long as the new space is comfortable and offers the same amenities as the current space. Access to restrooms, an open gathering space, the kitchenette, and different sized, bookable rooms (the large conference room was called out in particular).
 - ii. If the current Faculty Senate Chambers must relocate, committee members voiced their hopes that a new space would bring improved facilities in general, as well as increased accessibility of the chambers.

5. Engineering North Carolina’s Future

- a. Discussion of the Libraries’ early planning for the expansion of the College of Engineering was postponed until the April ULC meeting.

Notes recorded by: Jill Sexton

Next meeting: Thursday April 21, 2022, 10am-11am