Committee on the Library
Report for Academic Year 2021-2022

AY 2021-2022 Committee Members
Boyle, Deborah - Philosophy
Dingley, Zeb - History
Forghani, Behrang - Mathematics
Madariaga, Jessica - Economics
Sapp, Robert - French-Francophone-Italian Studies
Spalding, Heather (Secretary) - Biology
Swart, Katie (Chair) - Teacher Education

Committee Business
The committee met twice during the academic year, on October 18, 2021 and on March 25, 2022. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, meetings were held online via Zoom. Dean of the Library John White and Associate Dean of Collection & Content Services Heather Gilbert attended both meetings in an ex-officio capacity. The main topics discussed were the Library budget, Library operations during the pandemic, and future plans for the Library.

In addition to business conducted at the committee's meetings, in the periods before and between these meetings Chair Swart co-signed letters from Dean White in support of several curriculum proposals: for a new undergraduate program in Special Education (August 2021); for an undergraduate degree in Software Engineering (August 2021); for an undergraduate degree in Management (September 2021); for a concentration of paleontology within the undergraduate degree in Geology (September 2021); for a minor in Literature & Film (November 2021).

Library Materials Budget
The materials budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 was $3,140,000 a 7.4% increase from the previous year's budget of $2,922,307. The serials budget increase included $157,693 for serials inflation as well as $60,000 (recurring) engineering funding for the subscription of IEEEExplore. The firm order budget increase included $425 minimum allocation per fund and new and increased funds for new majors/programs such as Systems and Electrical Engineering, Geology and Environmental Geosciences, and separating Meteorology from Physics/Astrophysics. Serials were fully funded this year and a new collection assessment that approves new resources is now established to fund new programs (e.g. Engineering). (For more discussion, see October Meeting Minutes).
During the March meeting of the committee, Dean White positively commented on the Library and campus-wide budgets. Additionally, through diligent management and negotiation, librarians have held costs for the streaming platform Kanopy PDA (Patron Driven Access) at $80k. Moreover, Kanopy PDA was underspent due to manual review (pay to view) to reduce charges. The Library renegotiated the Elsevier contract and was able to leverage an inflation rate -1% next year to decrease annual renewal, with different amounts per year. The Library expects to close the FY under budget. (For more discussion, see March Meeting Minutes).

The Library has requested an increased budget of $3,250,308 for FY2022-23. This includes a 3.95% increase ($110,308k) in the serials budget.
Associate Dean Gilbert shared the [Collection Development Guide](#), which includes the following information regarding Library collections:

- Firm Order Budget Fund Balances
- Form to Request Expanded Access to Existing Library Materials
- Form to Request New Journals and Databases
- Collection Assessments by Subject
- Quick Facts about our Holding

New editions to the Library include:

- American Energy Society
- Post and Courier Historical Archive – will be available electronically
- Philosopher’s Index – previously citation only
- Ei Compendex – widely used for engineering research, on trial
- Other Dashboards available:
  - [Collections Dashboard](#)
  - [Access and Instruction Dashboards](#)

**Library Operations**

The pandemic has affected Library operations in numerous ways, including:

- Library security
  - Now utilizes automate access with a card access system. It was noted that students liked the additional security measures.
- Significantly more Ebooks now than print
- Students used library as much during pandemic as non-pandemic years, except for drop in print use
- Visitors are not encouraged (appointments needed)

**Future Library Plans**

The Library is planning a renovation in Summer 2022. Details of the renovations include:

- Student study spaces
- Video facilities
- Circulation Desk expansion

The Library is partnering with Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) to build additional room for services. This may necessitate temporarily relocating the reference desk and closing the Calhoun Street entrance. Part of this renovation will result in creating new collaborative learning spaces in the library, and a new exhibit space for the collection of the former Rivers Communication Museum. Yet another effect of the pandemic, and the resulting shortages of staff time, is that the announcement of the Library's Strategic Plan has been delayed from summer/fall 2020 to the next academic year.
New Committee

Chair Swart also convened a meeting with members of the incoming Committee on the Library in late April 2022, for the purpose of electing a chair. Katie Swart (Teacher Education) has agreed to serve another year as Chair. Mari Crabtree will serve as Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Swart