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Faculty Senate Library Committee Meeting Essence Notes

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Faculty Senate Library Committee

October 20, 2015

Essence Notes

Present:

W. Bede Mitchell, Dean Library

Quentin Fang, COSM

Hani Samawi, JPHCOPH

Fred Smith, LIB

Elizabeth Downs, COE

Alva Wilbanks, Recording Secretary

Richard Flynn, CLASS

Ursula Pritham, CHHS

Russell Thackston, CEIT

John Barkoulas, COBA

Jennifer Kowalewski, SEC

Dean Mitchell welcomed the group and introductions were made.

Election of Committee Chair: Richard Flynn was re-elected to serve as Committee Chair for the 2015-2016 term.

Report from the Dean of the Library: Dean Mitchell shared copies of the most recent edition of the *Henderson News*, a quarterly newsletter published for the Friends of the Library. He invited the members to review the articles, noting that the edition details some of the highlights of the 2014-2015 academic year, which proved to be very productive. He stated that Henderson Library is growing at a faster pace than ever before due to the vast amount of freely available content. In addition, the library has benefited from several gifts and donations adding over 15,700 new items to its collection. The library's institutional repository is growing at a tremendous rate and is a valuable recruiting tool, especially for graduate students. Partnerships have been created with other departments on campus promoting events such as those with the Center for International Studies for a lunch and learn lecture series held in the library, and a PBS Documentary series, *The Latino Americans: The Five Hundred Year Legacy that Shaped a Nation*.

Dean Mitchell stated that the library's budget is a constant challenge, receiving no increase in funding over the past four to five years. In reviewing the library's current materials budget, he noted that even though the library's budget has received no increase, there is a typical inflation of 6 - 10% to scholarly journal subscriptions. The library has been fortunate to receive year-end funding which helps toward meeting our expenses. Any excess in year-end funds is directed toward prepayments on subscriptions. He added that we are projecting a \$135,000 deficit this year. If no year-end funds materialize, we will be pressed to pay our bills. In such a circumstance, the Library Committee will be involved in deciding how to handle our needs, such as reviewing our subscriptions usage to consider which ones could be eliminated, and/or cutting back on the purchase of monographs. A general discussion followed regarding other areas of the library's budget and the FTE ratio to student and library personnel compared to our peer institutions.

Dean Mitchell reported on the position of Associate Dean of the Library vacated by Ann Hamilton who retired September 30, and the type of recruitment strategy being conducted. Campus visits for finalists are anticipated for January.

Fred Smith reported that the position vacated by the retirement of Cynthia Frost, Interlibrary Loan Librarian, is progressing with several good applicants. Campus visits should also be sometime in January.

Dean Mitchell reported three more retirements coming up; two in 2016 and one in 2017, which will reflect a 30% faculty turnover for the period 2014 to the 2017.

Agenda topics for the next meeting to be scheduled prior to the Thanksgiving Holidays were voiced. There will also be a demonstration on the library's new demand driven acquisition system.

Committee members were encouraged to report on today's meeting with their departments, obtain any agenda topics, questions or problems for the next meeting and forward to Dean Mitchell or Chair Richard Flynn.