

COMMITTEE: University Libraries committee

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, September 19th, 2012

PERSON PRESIDING: Mark Sprague, Chair of the Faculty

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chal Benson, Robert Campbell, Chris Oakley, Amy Lyndon, Qin Ding, Gail Munde

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jan Lewis, Dottie Spencer, Cheryl McFadden, Runying Chen

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lori Lee

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Welcome new and returning members; elect officers

Discussion:

Action Taken: Chair: Robert Campbell; Vice Chair: Chal Bensen; Secretary: Amy Lyndon

Agenda Item: Review Joyner/Laupus strategic plan due October 15th, 2012 with emphasis on administrative savings and operational efficiencies

Discussion: Jan Lewis reported that consultants are scheduled to come to the libraries, so the 10/15/12 deadline is not valid. Both libraries have comprehensive plans in place and already collaborate in a number of areas, but there is room for discussion and more collaboration in additional areas. The consultants are also being asked by ECU administration to facilitate the examination of the libraries as code units per the recommendation of the PPC. This could potentially result in a change in the current status of librarians as tenure-eligible faculty. Robert Campbell voiced concern as to whether this change in the unit code to non-faculty vs. faculty status may lessen the quality of new employees. Chris Oakley suggested we compare the issue with our peer institutions. Jan Lewis reported that 2 other institutions in the UNC system have librarians that are tenure eligible. Jan Lewis inquired as to the actual cost savings for such a change. What is the final outcome and how do we get there? Perhaps we can find balance with a mixed model of faculty and non-faculty. Jan Lewis reported that there are 18 or 19 tenured and 12 tenure-eligible at Joyner. [Lewis subsequently corrected and updated these figures: there are 23 tenured faculty (one of whom has submitted her resignation, 10 tenure-eligible faculty, and 2 fixed term faculty. Recruitment is nearly complete for one tenure-eligible position and is or soon will be underway for three fixed term faculty (all of these positions were previously held by tenured or tenure-eligible faculty but ECU administration would only approve recruitment for fixed term faculty until after the "code unit status" issue is resolved). Joyner just closed an unsuccessful search for a fixed term position for assistant director for library technology and will not open a new search at this time.] Dottie Spencer reported there are 4 tenured, and 1 tenure-eligible at Laupus. The libraries assume that those currently tenured would be grandfathered in, but the question of faculty status will arise with those who are tenure-eligible or hold a fixed term position now and those who are hired in the future.

Action Taken: We need to talk to library faculty when talking about the unit code to have a full understanding of the effect of the proposed changes. Consultants will spend a day on the issue when they

return, so there is open and transparent decision-making. In general, we should try to make our report to the faculty senate before April so we're not last on the list.

Agenda Item: Monitor the changes and additions to library use

Discussion: There are fewer hardcopy books and more e-books. The library use is good, but there have been fewer attendees at Laupus Library. Joyner has seen increases in its gate counts. The Pirate Tutoring Center move out of Joyner was accomplished over the summer, while the Office of Faculty Excellence and the Math Labs moved in.

Action Taken: The committee should collaborate with the space and collection committee. Ideally, we would like someone on the Libraries committee to be on the Space allocations committee.

Agenda Item: Continue the dialogue regarding open versus closed stacks.

Discussion: We need clarification as to the open and closed stacks priorities. David Wilson-Okamura had requested this last semester. Jan discussed automatic storage retrieval, and whether open and closed stacks fit into the available space.

Agenda Item: Discuss the goals of the committee for the coming year

Discussion: Discussed which of our goals from last year were ongoing and prioritized them for the coming year.

Action Taken: The #1 goal is to consider the budget. Our #2 goal is to specifically review the Joyner/Laupus strategic plan to increase administrative savings and operational efficiencies. Our # 3 goal is to discuss how to also enhance services at the libraries in conjunction with fewer resources.

Assigned additional duties to:

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October, 17th, 2012

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Our role in promoting University library events.