University of Oregon Libraries
University Library Committee (ULC)
Winter Meeting, 2016–2017 Academic Year
Tuesday, January 31, 2017
Time 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Rowe Conference Room, 115H Knight Library

AGENDA

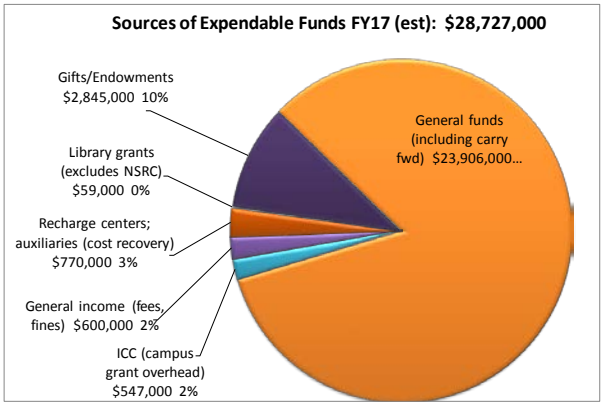
Attendance: Andrew Bonamici, Sara Brownmiller, Helen Chu, Chris Eckerman, Adriene Lim, Ann Miller, Jimmy Murray, Doris Payne, Nicholas Proudfoot, Suzanne Rowe, Nancy Slight-Gibney, Mark Watson

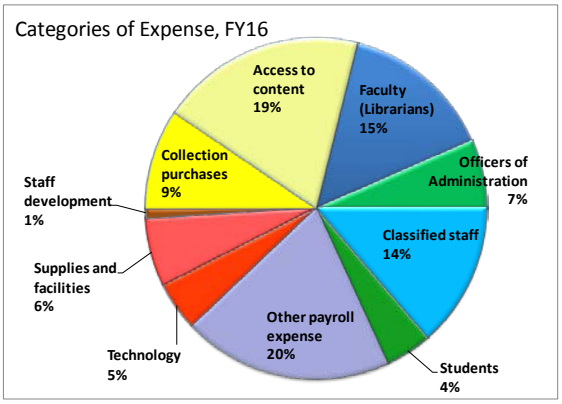
Absent: Zena Ariola, Michael Koscho, Roberta Mann, Larry Wayte

Welcome/Remarks (Adriene Lim)

- Introductions
- Addressing the current national climate
  - Libraries and library workers strive for professional neutrality in how we provide services and build collections. However, as an institutional member of the Association of Research Libraries and as professionals who hold memberships in the American Library Association, we in the UO Libraries also agree to uphold core library values, including diversity, inclusion, equity, social justice, and intellectual freedom.
  - Discussion: How does neutrality intersect with these other values? How do we handle incidents of hate speech or acts in the library? How can we provide/create "brave spaces" and not necessarily "safe spaces"?
  - UO Libraries is providing training workshops to library staff/faculty to address these issues.
  - UO Libraries has created internal guidelines on how to respond to discriminatory or harassing behavior or language in the libraries, which refer to university guidelines (see UO Respect website). The university guidelines often exempt free speech, but those are exactly the instances we have to grapple with in the libraries (free speech versus hate speech).
  - Has data been collected on incidents of harassment in the library?
    - We have incident reporting, so could compile that data; library publications are reporting an overall increase in cases of harassment in libraries nationwide.

Overview of the Libraries' Budget for FY2017 (Nancy Slight-Gibney)





- 2% cut on operational budget; collections budget flat (no increase for inflation)
- UO Libraries Quick Facts
- Question asked, discussion: Tutoring in the Math Library is run by Libraries, using peer tutors, so we track its use. Sky Studio Tutoring is run by TLC, so is not counted in the Libraries' numbers.
- UO Libraries has been successful in fundraising. Unrestricted gift funds used lately for technology purchases and upgrade of physical spaces.
- Overview of new Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library
- Knight Library's "West Wing" (first floor map and documents area) recently remodeled
- FY2018 budget has not yet been determined, but it is likely that we will receive a reduction of 2-3%.

Overview of Allocations Formulas for Collections (Mark Watson)

- Snapshot of what Collection Managers are working on as a continuing project from last year.
- Libraries here to support research and teaching, but we have limited funds.
- Review of current allocations
    - Defined metrics to compare allocations
    - Tested multiple equations, each resulting in different outcomes
    - Need for library resources may be greater for some disciplines than others (which may have free access online sources), but difficult to include need in a formula
    - Discovered that no one formula can address all factors and be agreed upon by all stakeholders
    - If formulas do not work, then it boils down more to professional judgement
- Discussion
    - If one factor is number of PhD students, then those programs without a graduate program suffer; we should support all programs.
        - Yes, but with limited funding, the Libraries will never have the capacity to become a preeminent library in *all* disciplines.

        - An alternative is to have minimum levels of funding for all programs the university has approved; as long as the programs are there, we have a commitment to support them.
    - A trust in librarians more than the "perfect" formula, but important that decisions be informed by the data generated by the different formulas
- Conclusion: Allocation formulas have been explored sufficiently to stop work on finding *a* formula, and instead focus on analyzing the data and using it to help guide decision-making by librarians.
- Suggested that the Libraries find new sources of financial support for new disciplines, rather than taking away from thriving, existing programs
    - Some new programs build on existing disciplines and their resources
    - Allocate new resources to those disciplines that are underfunded, but difficult in a situation where budget cuts are likely
- Constantly working on ways to secure additional funding: Asked recently for library support as part of endowed faculty positions (certain percentage to library for each position); UO administration is considering this proposal.

E-books Update (Mark Watson)

- Spending on all things electronic has gone up, approx. 75% of total
- E-book collection is part of that total; top 5 areas in e-books are science, law, general works, social sciences, and medicine
- Use of e-books is going up, too.
- Print books purchased versus e-books *activated*
- Some e-books are purchased outright, some are open access, and others are subscription (depends on platform and source)
- How do you feel about e-books? Experience? Pros and cons?
    - Concerned about future of e-book access; upgrades to software, etc.
        - Most e-books now exist in the cloud
        - Portico allows for access in perpetuity if publisher goes out of business (for those publishers who participate)
- Libraries decided not to do an e-book survey; instead will check in with faculty via liaisons
- Physical space is very limited (as we have no off-site storage facility), and that is another reason why e-books may become more sustainable to attain over time.

Remaining 2016-2017 meetings

Location: Knight Library Rowe Conference Room (room 115H)

- February 21, 2017 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- April 7, 2017 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- May 10, 2017 9:00-10:30 a.m.

Note: ULC minutes are posted to the UO Scholar's Bank.