

## **Appendix F: Library Committee**

Interviewed: Kari Miller, Faculty Senate Library Committee

Interviewer: Jane Nichols, Member, Committee on Committees

Date of Interview: Not Known

### Responses/Discussion of the assessment guide questions:

1. Yes, the Standing Rules clearly match the Faculty Senate Library Committee's (FLSC) work. Members advise the University Librarian in library activities and issues that come before them and the rules are broad enough to capture the committee's current function. While the committee ably provides a faculty voice on library initiatives, the student voice is less well represented because of the known challenges of student participation.
2. Yes, the annual reports are consistent with the Standing Rules and the committee annually completes a report. For example, this year they are continuing the work on the libraries' Open Educational Resources initiative by acting as a sounding board, providing feedback, making recommendations and indicating how campus faculty might respond to this initiative.

The committee is responsive to changes; it has disbanded the subcommittee that handled the Library Research Travel grants because that funding has ceased. The FSLC notes that this disproportionately affects humanities faculty because research grants are not common in these fields.

3. Yes, the annual reports provide a good memory of issues the committee addressed in previous years and track ongoing issues where follow-up is needed. The reports give a good snapshot of what came up, initiatives, and recommendations, and clearly outline issues and agenda items for the committee to follow-up on in the upcoming year. An example of this is the libraries Open Access Textbook Initiative Pilot which was discussed at the Faculty Senate meeting, Thursday, May 8, 2014.
4. The chair was able to secure a student member who has been able to attend meetings this year. It's healthy to hear his opinion, particularly on the library initiative concerning open textbooks. He has been able to suggest student organizations beyond ASOSU that would want to weigh in on this issue. For example, students for sustainability would connect to this issue from the perspective of being able to reduce the footprint textbooks. Student presence helps the committee to purposely connect more intentionally and purposefully to students.

A weakness the committee experiences is, like other Faculty Senate Committees, securing standing students that can and will consistently attend meetings. Last year the Library Committee had a graduate student, but in name only, as they couldn't attend the meetings. This year the chair asked a former student staff member. Even if the committee advertises to ASOSU, there's no guarantee that they will get someone in.

5. The FSLC's work fits with OSU's strategic plan, most directly with Goal 2: Provide an excellent teaching and learning environment and achieve student access, persistence and success through graduation and beyond that matches the best land grant universities in the country. OSU Libraries contributes to OSU's teaching and learning environment on several fronts. Obvious examples are through teaching courses and holding workshops to foster sound research practices while less obvious examples include the development of spaces within the library customized for individual and group study, social and casual interaction, and by offering awards such as the Library Undergraduate Research Award which is annually given to two students who, through the comprehensive use of the OSU Libraries, demonstrate outstanding research,

scholarship, and originality in writing a paper or completing a project. The library joins with other campus units to create a teaching and learning environment by offering spaces and services that truly benefit student academic, social, physical and mental wellness.

6. The FSLC provides a valuable link between the library and campus because it adds an extra opportunity for feedback and connection between them. During meetings the library relays developments in services and initiatives, seeks feedback, and asks members to help spread the word about new and existing work. For example, with the textbook initiative, both the faculty and student members have been able to assist in these ways.
7. Not applicable, the committee adds value.
8. The FSLC's scope is such that committee members can get to meaningful conversation about diversity and how the library shows its commitment; it encourages the presence of various perspectives and voices. There is quite a bit of diversity represented among current committee members, and the committee would benefit from additional engagement by folks bringing additional lenses to the table. One example is someone to represent veteran's affairs.