

Libraries Committee
January 16, 2013. Revised January 27, 2013
Report from Jan Lewis, Interim Dean, Academic Library Services

1. Resolution that the Faculty Senate supports librarians at East Carolina University having the option of continued employment in positions that have faculty tenure, rank and status: the Chancellor was informed of the resolution by letter dated Dec. 12. Thanks to the committee for submitting and supporting this resolution.
2. Joyner Library recently submitted a criticality justification for a position called Online Learning Librarian. This position was previously called Distance Education Coordinator and was a tenure-track faculty position. The person in the position, Angela Whitehurst, recently accepted the position of Head of Research & Instructional Services following a national search. We decided to change the title of the position to be consistent with current practice in the field and because the position will focus on all online learners, whether they are "distance learners" or not. The responsibilities of the position are nearly identical to Angela's responsibilities when she was in this position. In accordance with current hiring guidelines, we submitted the Online Learning Librarian position as a one-year fixed term faculty position. The Academic Council originally approved it for hire as an EPA Non-Faculty position. Following discussion with Provost Sheerer, we received approval to hire it as a one-year fixed term faculty position. Thanks to Provost Sheerer and the Academic Council for approving this request as a faculty position. A search committee will be formed this week.
3. Program review of Laupus and Joyner Libraries: Pursuant to a request from Provost Sheerer and Vice Chancellor Horns, and with the full agreement of Dr. Spencer and me, Dr. Linner Griffin agreed to move the program review of the Libraries to spring 2013. Joyner had been scheduled for review in 2014. Dr. Griffin gave us the option of following the guidelines for administrative and support units or the guidelines for academic units. After receiving input from faculty and staff, Dr. Spencer and I both decided that despite the fact that the libraries are academic units, the guidelines for administrative and support units were more appropriate to use for this review. She and I have submitted names of potential external reviewers from ECU's peer institutions as well as names of internal reviewers. Faculty and staff will be fully involved in writing the self-study and in all phases of the external review.
4. Consultant update: Gene Spencer and Maureen Sullivan had a work session with faculty from Laupus and Joyner Libraries on Nov. 30, followed by a meeting with Dr. Spencer, Provost Sheerer, Vice Chancellor Horns, and me. The work session focused primarily on the "unit code status" question. On Jan. 8, the consultants submitted a three-page report with suggestions for "moving forward" from the work session. These suggestions were accepted by Provost Sheerer and Vice Chancellor Horns. The main suggestion was that we select four faculty members (two from Joyner and two from Laupus) and task them with writing "a document (approximately 5-10 pages) that describes the important components of an alternative structure or model that could satisfy the themes described in the work session (altered by the expectations of the VCs and the consultant's recommendations)." This group has been appointed and has a deadline of March 1 for submitting the document. The consultants have offered to serve as a resource for the writing team.
5. I am working on the bill of sale and other documentation for the third and final installment of the Stuart Wright Collection. While it has been appraised at \$525,251, we will pay only \$126,000, with the remainder being recognized as a gift from Dr. Wright. This installment contains many unique items that will be of interest to researchers.
6. Construction is underway for the new areas for the University Writing Center and the Office for Faculty Excellence. There was some construction noise during the week of Dec. 17. It has been pretty quiet since then, although we've had an abnormal number of fire alarms!
7. The Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery fundraising campaign is going well: we've raised \$125,000 of the \$150,000 goal. We'll meet with Ricky Hill in Facilities and the designer on January 30 to start the design work.