# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

September 13 2017, GBB 202, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

*Members Present:* F. Brown, C. Dumke, J. Farnsworth, C. Fitspatrick, K. Harris, G. Morrill, M. Murphy, S. Ross, D. Schuldberg, R. Smith, K. Volk
*Members Absent/Excused:* L. Broberg, C. Palmer, S. Stan
Ex-Officio Present: A. Kinch

Guest: Barry Brown- Mansfield Library

Call to Order

* The minutes from 4/26/17 were approved.

## Communications

* New members were welcomed and members introduced themselves.
* Barry Brown distributed a handout (appended below) regarding the decreases to the library collection. The library will have to break e-journal packages in order to meet the required budget reduction. It may be necessary to break some consortia with other campuses. Access to the most used titles will be renewed. For the last few years, the library has not received an inflationary increase, which increases the size of the reduction. The increase is usually covered in the present law adjustment calculation. The proposed cancelations are based on low use or high cost. A message went to department chairs requesting feedback. A card was sent to faculty as well as a backup in case chairs did not forward the information. The library has also had a 30% reduction in staff. And has been told that the open hours must be retained. Interlibrary load is an expensive substitution at $29.00 per order. There have been three resolutions approved by shared governance.

Although the Research Strategic Plan suggests that I% of IDCs go to the Library, this has not occurred. Dean Kinch will find out more about this. This year the VP of Research provide $50,000 to the library to keep the subscription to Web of Science. This came about because top researchers spoke up. The library collection is part of the infrastructure that makes the university a research institution.

The graduate and Professional Student Association is in discussions with the Vice President of Research and the Provost on the issue.

## Business Items

* The Council formed a workgroup (Chair Ross, Professor Schuldberg, Students Farnsworth and Smith) to draft a letter regarding its concerns. The letter will be addressed to the President’s Cabinet and will invite the President, Provost, and VP for Research to a meeting to discuss the issue.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

# The Mansfield Library Collection Budget Reduction Overview - August 31, 2017

This year (FY 2018) the Mansfield library received a substantial base budget cut. In addition, no inflationary increase was received for the collections budget. The impact to the library collection budget is a reduction of $600,000 or 15% from FY 2017 (see table below) plus an inflation deficit of $202,000 (needed to sustain a 6% overall increase in costs of subscriptions in FY 2018). This reduction follows four previous years of budget reductions and means a large amount of resources need to be cancelled this year. The regular acquisition of books, via the core approval plan, has also been suspended for this fiscal year.

All the easy, least impactful cancellations have already occurred. This fiscal year (FY 2018), in addition to cancelling some individual ejournals and databases, it will no longer be possible to sustain all of the ejournal packages currently subscribed to (e.g. ScienceDirect, Springer, Taylor & Francis, Wiley, etc.) at their current cost. These large, expensive, resources were added in the mid 2000's, to support a greater depth and breadth of scholarship at UM, when the library could count on a stable collections budget and received yearly inflationary increases to it (see table below). Note that if a particular ejournal package is cancelled - it then becomes critical to add back some of the highest used, essential, individual journal title subscriptions from it (which then requires an even higher initial cancellation amount be targeted).

Campus communication regarding specific proposed resource cancellations for this year, and solicitation of feedback from, all departments and ASUM, will occur during September 2017 (see Fall 2017 Proposed Resource Cancellation Lists). Feedback about resources, identified for cancellation, will be accepted through September 27th. If any of the resources identified for cancellation are required to meet your program's accreditation standards please point us to or supply the requirement language / documentation. Cancellations of resources will begin January 2018.

# Total Mansfield Library Collection Budget Allocation - FY 2005 to FY 2018

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Allocation (Final) | Base Cut | Inflationary Increase | Rescissions | Net Increase/Decrease |
| FY 2005 | $2,823,606 |  | 6% | $10,241 | + 6% |
| FY 2006 | $3,102,270 |  | 9% |  | + 9% |
| FY 2007 | $3,224,670 |  | 9% | $156,000 | + 4% |
| FY 2008 | $3,450,396 | $156,000 | 7% |  | + 7% |
| FY 2009 | $3,691,925 |  | 7% |  | + 7% |
| FY 2010 | $3,985,088 |  | 8% |  | + 8% |
| FY 2011 | $4,300,695 |  | 8% |  | + 8% |
| FY 2012 | $4,641,551 |  | 8% |  | + 8% |
| FY 2013 | $4,868,532 |  | 8% | $141,544 | + 5% |
| FY 2014 | $4,549,680 | $360,000 | 0% | $277,000 | - 6.5% |
| FY 2015 | $4,210,948 | $615,732 | 0% |  | - 7.4% |
| FY 2016 | $4,171,948 |  | 0% | $39,000 | - 1% |
| FY 2017 | $3,966,948 | $224,000 | 0% |  | - 5.3% |
| FY 2018 | $3,366,948 | **$600,000** | 0% |  | **- 15%** |

In FY 2013 the university budget allocation for library collections was over $5 million. Now in FY 2018, it is less than $3.4 million, **a reduction of 33%** over the last five years. In FY 2012 the University of Montana Mansfield Library's collection budget was greater than that of, our closest peer library, the Montana State University's Renne Library, by over $100,000. In FY 2018, the MSU library collection budget is almost $5.7 million while the UM library collection budget is less than $3.4 million. That is a very large funding gap (**40% less in library collection purchasing power**) between the flagship academic libraries in Montana.

Over the last five years, the Mansfield Library has made the case repeatedly to university administrators, the Faculty Senate (via the University Library Committee), and the ASUM Senate that maintaining the library's budget is critical for supporting the research, teaching, and learning needs of students, faculty and staff at a 21st century institution of higher learning. There have been three consecutive years of Faculty Senate and ASUM Resolutions (Spring 2014, 2015, 2016) in support of the library and asking university administrators to not further cut the library budget. The Research Strategic Plan has a statement about protecting library resources. The new UM Strategic Vision (1.1) includes: " Support library instruction and collections to meet undergraduate student, graduate student, and faculty research needs."

All the obvious cost saving measures have been implemented long ago including:

* No new resources added unless others of similar value are cancelled
* Participation in consortial buying (via national, regional, and statewide groups)
* Negotiating long term subscription contracts to ensure lower inflationary interest increases
* Eliminating duplication of formats (e.g. dropping print if electronic format saves money)
* Eliminating most duplication of content
* Closely reviewing resource renewals that increase dramatically in yearly cost
* Primarily purchasing paperback rather than hardback monographs
* Use of gift endowments

The general impacts of library collection budget cuts, over the last 4 years, have been:

* Significant cutting of databases and journals
* Significant reduction of monograph and media acquisitions
* No acquisition of new electronic journal backfiles
* Significant reduction of projects to digitize unique content the library holds

We recognize that the current proposed resource cancellations for FY2018 could have a profound impact on student recruitment and retention, and the research, scholarship and productivity of faculty, students, and staff across campus. The library will continue to communicate with the campus community during each phase of this collection cancellation process. Thank you for your attention to this process. If you have additional questions or would like to meet with a library representative please contact library.serials@umontana.edu.