



**YOUNGSTOWN
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Committee Report Form | YSU

**COVER SHEET TO BE ATTACHED TO ALL REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE ACADEMIC
SENATE**

Date 3/14/2023 Senate Meeting Date 4/5/2023 Report # (Senate Use Only) _____

Intended Action: Informational X Senate Vote ____ Consultative/Advisory ____

Name of Committee Submitting Report: Library Committee

Committee Status: appointed chartered

Names of Committee Members: Johnathan Farris (chair) CCCA, Rick Deschenes STEM, Kimberly Pleva WCBA, Radar Riegel (student), Jeremy Schwartz WCBA, Cynthia Shields BCHHS, Ana Torres Co-Dir. Maag Library (ex officio), Christine Adams Co-Dir. Maag Library (ex officio), Phyllis Paul, Dean CCCA (ex officio)

Elected Members

Appointed Members

Please write a brief summary of the report the Committee is submitting to the Senate:

Once again, the committee attempted to tackle the problem of the outmoded way acquisitions funds are allocated to departments and programs. To recap, currently funds not already allocated to the library general fund (used to cover expenses that benefit everyone, like OhioLink, the bindery, etc...) are divided by department and program using a formula which dates from before recorded memory and of which no one knows the origin. This is about a third of all library funds.

After having contacting numerous university libraries, Dr. Farris proposed that we might shift those funds into a general fund to be accessed by everyone in a prioritized manner (new programs, faculty,

and courses getting the first opportunity at the funds, then all faculty, etc.). This would be based on the system used by Texas Tech and the University of Virginia. He also had distributed the article, “Creating a Flexible Fund Structure to Meet the Goals and Needs of the Library and Its Users” in *Library Collections, Acquisitions, & Technical Services* (Routledge, 2013), which recounts Texas Tech’s experience.

Farris brought a potential motion to the table at the committee meeting. The Co-Directors opposed the motion, partially on the basis that most of the moneys currently allocated to departments was spent on subscriptions, many or most of which are ongoing. Farris suggested that the subscriptions in place could continue as they are and the single fund could be composed of the rest of the moneys. The librarians said this couldn’t be done because subscription fees change so that amount changes. Farris was not sure why not, but it might be a non-issue eventually with the rising cost of subscriptions and a flat library budget squeezing the remaining funds to a smaller amount every year. All faculty members took active part in the discussion trying to figure out other potential approaches to these funds. Even the Co-Directors admit that using a funding formula not based in any known rationale is highly undesirable, but they suggested they could not change it, although the formula is in fact internal to library funds. They also said this committee and the senate could not change it. When asked who could, they suggested the administration could, but who in the administration was unknown.

Any further action has been tabled for the moment. Dr. Farris is at a loss with how to proceed. The committee would entertain any suggestions from the floor on how to proceed.

The Co-Directors wish to remind all faculty that acquisition requests for this year’s budget will be due on April 15.

The committee will not meet again this year unless an issue arises requiring their deliberation.

If substantive changes in your committee recommendation are made from the floor, would the committee prefer that the matter be sent back to committee for further consideration?

Introduction and Rationale

Type introduction and rationale here.

Revised Policy/Policies (when applicable)

Type revised policy here

Recommendation

Type recommendation here.