

Report to NDSU Faculty Senate

May 12, 2023

Senate Library Committee Annual Report

This report describes challenges facing the NDSU Libraries and initiatives currently underway during the 2022-2023 academic year.

Library Committee Member Fall 22-Spring 23

Bob Hearne, AFSNR
Andrew Stark (Chair), AHSS
Charles Stevens, BUSN
Danling Wang, ENGR
Estelle Leclerc, HP
Justin Wageman, HSE
Bakhtiyor Rasulev, SM
Jolie Graybill, Interim Dean of Libraries
Morgan Hovde, Student Government
Matthew Scott Dale, Student Government

Challenges + Initiatives

The library faces some challenges in this transitional year under the new leadership Dr. Jolie Graybill, Dean of Libraries. These challenges were discussed in our final meeting and included open staff positions GRHC/Spec Collections and marketing. Positive initiatives were implemented by Dean Graybill and staff during the 2022-2023 school year. The initiative are as follows:

1. Initiating better communication between staff communication and eliminating silos
2. Community and culture building between College Departments and the library
3. Restructuring the Organizational Chart
4. Increase Numbers
5. Creative Campus Engagement
6. Collaborative Experience
7. Library Upgrades + Staffing
8. Student Engagement Activities

Observations and Recommendations

Budget and funding remain challenges and alternative revenue streams are encouraged. Student engagement has been very positive post-Covid as visitor numbers are up and engagement with library spaces has been active. Visitors and student engagement has increased and experiences in facilities such as the Digital Visualization Lab and Digital Fabrication Studio positively drive student activity. The Digital Fabrication Lab is very active and the CoLab space has housed collaborative ideation events with student between departments. This area should be actively promoted by departments and faculty.

Popular 3D printing and VR, and engagement with faculty has helped create and maintain collaborative use in many different disciplines. Ideation sessions, workshops, and regular fun, recreational events, like the "Friends of the Library" night, can help drive connection with student communities and culture building. Art, Design, + Architecture displays in the library including the entry way and Visual Arts student projects displayed in the library

have activated spaces within the library and contribute to a creative learning environment and cross-disciplinary culture. Promotion and ideas such as the VIP Study Room contest, Poetry Month Celebration, National Library Week, Visiting Scholars, Graduate Researcher Workshops, VR Experience are all positive engagement opportunities for students and colleges.

Critical open staffing positions are forecasted to be filled by this fall. An increased budget for the library would help marketing, engagement, research, and the ability to maintain staff and facilities. Many current librarians would like to continue as subject librarians. The satellite libraries at Klai Hall and Renaissance Hall now has a dedicated librarian and students have the ability to self check-out at the new Falk Library in Renaissance Hall. The Falk Library book collection is cataloged and now part of the NDSU Library system. Support and increased awareness for the library and staff can be bolstered through student government, clubs, and organizations in the form of volunteering, fundraising, and student work positions. Tours of the Libraries, marketing, engagement, and student driven research into what student want out of the NDSU Library will help faculty and staff strategize long term support and investment in ideas, content, exhibitions and activity.

Engagement with the Fargo-Moorhead community, reimagining K-12 school involvement, and outreach with a broader marketing campaign may help awareness of content, exhibitions, activities, and research materials. The Fargo Forum, The Cass County Historical Society, the Hjemkomst Center, the Plains Art Museum, the Rourke Art Museum, the planned science museum, and community leaders' involvement will lead to greater collaboration and community support.

Andrew Stark, M.F.A. (Chair of the Library Committee)

Assistant Professor of Practice
Graphic Design, Illustration, & Foundations
Department of Visual Art

School of Design, Architecture & Art

North Dakota State University

office:314A

ph:701-205-8509

andrewdavidstark.squarespace.com