

NDSU Library Committee 2015-2016 Report for Staff Senate

April 2016

The main library underwent construction on the front entrance area which was completed this winter, and a Grand Re-Opening was held on January 29, 2016.

In November, the Library reported approximately \$13,000 deficit based on expected student fee dollars. The library's budget model relies heavily on student fees; student fees amount to nearly 20% of the library's budget, which is high in comparison to peer institutions. Ideally, the dean would like to see a mixture of an increase in external support and some increased internal funding. There are no plans to request an increase in student fees. Also, the library will not be asked to contribute to the overall deficit or cuts experienced by the university as a whole (information as of March 2016), but there are some serious budget shortfalls projected into the next year. Still, the library has been looking for ways to cut expenses, such as in revamping job openings as they occur and evaluating their current subscription packages for use and duplications of offerings, so cuts could be made for the sake of efficiency. Despite strategic cuts, departments are urged to continue to make their resource needs known to their liaison librarians.

Through it all, the Library wants to learn more about how the campus uses the library and their satisfaction with library services. Therefore, the Library Committee will be deploying a user survey to the faculty and students. The library committee voted to keep this as a library committee duty that would have follow up surveys every 3 years or so.

The library has had some issues with illegal downloads. In one three-week timespan this spring semester, 20 instances of illegal mass downloads from library databases, primarily Science Direct, were reported to NDSU by the database vendors. It appears that stolen NDSU credentials, logins, were used to access the network from outside the US and initiate automated mass downloads. NDSU Libraries haven't been penalized, but the vendors do bring it to the Library's attention when it happens.

A new librarian was hired: Steve Jeffrey joined NDSU in February and is the librarian for the subjects of Engineering, Geosciences, and Transportation and Logistics.

The search for an Architecture/Landscape Architecture Librarian has been a challenge and did not result in a hire. Twice. This search is suspended until the new library dean comes on board.

Library Dean Bridget Burke will be leaving NDSU in May to go to the University of Wyoming to work in archives and special collections. Larry Peterson is the interim dean. A search for a new permanent dean has been posted. Screening will begin April 29. The hope is to have the position filled quickly.