

**Approved**

**Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate**

*Committee on the Library*

**2015-2016 Annual Report**

In fulfilling its charge as established in the bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Committee on the Library (LIBR) carried out the following activities during the 2015-2016 academic year:

To tackle specific issues, the committee agreed to continue the practice of working through subcommittees. The four subgroups and members were:

- Finance and Resources – Professor Blanton
- NRLF and Storage of hard-copy collections – Professors Frede, Hickey, Levine, and Rosen
- Open Access, Office of Scholarly Communication, and Digital Literacy – Professors Brenner, Shannon, Koziol, and Weinstein and Grad Assembly representative Julia Sizek
- Subject Specialty Libraries and Reorganizations – Professors Levine and Briggs

The new University Librarian, Jeffrey Mackie-Mason, a by-invitation member, met several times with the committee, establishing a cordial and collaborative working relationship between his office and the Senate. The Library budget and the role of the Committee in supporting and sustaining the Library were continuing topics of discussion. The committee was invited to participate in identifying priorities which will help frame the Library's budget submission for the next fiscal year, and in a strategic planning process which will continue in the Fall.

Moffitt Library and the NRLF were continuing subjects of discussion this year. Because UC no longer receives capital funds from the State, any renovations envisioned for Moffitt will have to be underwritten by outside contributions. LIBR indicated to the University Librarian its wish to be involved in planning for any further phases of Moffitt renewal. A broader issue, about which there was some difference of opinion within the committee, is the role and function of an undergraduate library in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Whether or not a redevelopment of the first, second, and third floors of Moffitt goes forward, our committee has been and will continue to be very concerned with the status of the library as a physical space, and particularly with the utilization of the Doe-Moffitt complex, in response to the varied and competing claims of research, teaching, and the library's own staffing and functional needs.

The Media Resource Center is located in Moffitt, and the challenge of inventorying and preserving obsolete media and equipment, and of ensuring access to evolving digital media, is of ongoing LIBR interest. Professor Jeff Skoller, a past member of the committee, has laid out the parameters of a Media Resource Center in a memo entitled, "The Future of Non-Text Media at UC Berkeley: Content and Technologies at Risk." (October 2014).

At the beginning of the year, the expansion or relocation of the NRLF was problematic, but this Spring, President Napolitano met with the Council of Librarians and asked them for a proposal to expand the NRLF. This committee has been a vigorous and persistent advocate for NRLF expansion, and its efforts, along with those of the University Librarian, have helped to move this issue forward at the systemwide level. Professor Frede developed a Facebook page about the NRLF with pictures and stories about how researchers use the facility to further their scholarship.

This committee was represented on a search committee for the position of Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources, and other members attended the campus presentations by short-listed candidates for this position, and for those of two area specialists. After witnessing candidates' presentations and studying their CVs and other material, library committee members submitted comparative evaluations. Our participation (and that of other interested faculty) in these recruitments is entirely advisory, with appointment decisions resting appropriately with the library administration. Like other personnel actions, these are confidential. It would be unrealistic to expect faculty opinion to prevail in these matters. But if there were some informal mechanism for conveying to this committee how a given appointment decision was reached, that might encourage continuing faculty participation in searches.