

**Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Committee on the Library
2013-2014 Annual Report**

In fulfilling its charge as established in the by laws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Committee on the Library (LIBR) carried out the following activities during the 2013-2014 academic year:

ACTIVITIES:

➤ *The Commission on the Future of the Library*

The recommendations and “Next Steps” in the Commission on the Future of the Library Report (“Commission”) formed a blueprint for concentrating much of the Committee’s activities this year. The LIBR Chair was a member of the Commission. Four subcommittees were formed to focus on the following topics:

- 1) the Northern Regional Library Facility (NRLF) and storage of hard-copy collections chaired by Professor Frede;
- 2) open access, office on scholarly communications, and digital literacy chaired by Professor Shannon;
- 3) subject specialty libraries (SSL) and reorganization, with Chair Lovell at the helm; and,
- 4) Finance to assess how priorities are set and resources are allocated headed by Professor Midgley

The NRLF subgroup visited the Facility meeting with NRLF Director Erik Mitchell and Charlotte Rubens (Operations Manager) and produced a detailed report to the Divisional Council with specific recommendations for the Facility’s expansion to protect and preserve future research and scholarship. DIVCO will consider the report in Fall 2014.

Based on meetings with Subject Specialty Librarians and recommendations drawn from the Commission report, the SSL subgroup developed detailed suggestions concerning any future proposals and decisions to modify or consolidate SSLs and service points to include consultation with all affected users, the intellectual and academic rationale, consideration of other strategies that may accomplish similar goals, and a cost/benefit analysis of all solutions being weighed. The memorandum was submitted to DIVCO in early Spring 2014. After being reviewed by three Senate committees, the Divisional Council endorsed the proposed process.

LIBR endorsed the idea that the Media Resource Center should be considered for specialty designation, and that a replacement for the last librarian, with the requisite skills and experience to head a media and digital library should be a priority search for the Library. An appropriate space to house the Center to accommodate 21st century requirements, along with older equipment and non-text materials that has become outmoded but continues to be used by researchers and others is an issue that LIBR will continue to pursue in 2014-15.

The Library administration issued “A Framework for Library Reinvestment” based on the Commission report and the subsequent response to that Report from the EVCP and the Academic Senate Chair. In a memorandum to the Divisional Council, LIBR detailed its reservations about the “Framework” as envisioned currently since it diverges from the Commission report in several respects.

LIBR raised the possibility of including specialty librarians and selectors in department meetings at least once a year to update faculty on acquisitions, new journals, digital technology innovations, resource needs, and other areas relevant to teaching and research in the field. LIBR will continue to pursue this idea with Deans and department chairs in 2014-15.

Chair Lovell and Professor Shannon met with the Committee on Research to discuss the recently adopted systemwide open access policy.

The UCB home page was redesigned and the link to the Library relegated to a drop-down list. Chair Lovell contacted the appropriate campus official, outlining LIBR’s concerns. Subsequently, the link to the Library was restored to the Berkeley homepage.

Goals for 2014-15

Follow up the recommendations and “Next Steps” in the Commission on the Future of the Library Report, including:

- Monitor and participate in discussions concerning improving funding and staffing levels for the Library
- Pursue NRLF expansion planning
- Monitor and participate in discussions concerning the Subject Specialty Libraries
- Monitor and participate in discussions concerning deaccessioning of print material
 - Lay the groundwork for a Media Resource Center with a dedicated librarian
 - Outreach to Deans and chairs to encourage them to include in department/School meetings appropriate specialty librarians and selectors at least once a year to keep lines of communication between faculty and librarians open at the department level.

2013-14 Committee on the Library

Margaretta Lovell, Chair

Jake Dalton

Victoria Frede

Paul Grabowitz

Todd Hickey (Fall)

Maggie Kelly

Ray Larson

Dan Melia

Jim Midgley

Tom Shannon

Jeff Skoller

Katie Snyder (Fall)

Gary Sposito (Spring)

APPROVED

Quin Shen, ASUC rep (Fall)
Renee Tivoni Mack, Grad Assembly rep