

Library Reorganization

Presentation to the Faculty Senate Executive
Committee by the Faculty Executive
Committee of the University Libraries

November 18, 2015

Outline

- Faculty Executive Committee
- Faculty Librarians
- *Bylaws of the Voting Faculty, State University of New York at Buffalo, Article II., 1. and 3.*
- Consultation Timeline
- Issues and Concerns

Faculty Executive Committee

- Elected faculty governance committee in Libraries.
- Duties include (Bylaws, II.G.1.):
 - Represent UL faculty, advisory to VPUL
 - “... review and make recommendations, including courses of action. To the VPUL on all matters of interest to the UL faculty.” (I.G.1.b)(2))
 - “... actively solicit expressions of opinion... It is incumbent on the Committee to act upon any matter of interest to the voting Faculty which is brought to its attention.” (II.G.1.b)(3))

Faculty Librarians

- SUNY Board of Trustees granted SUNY librarians faculty rank in 1968. Includes rights to tenure, peer review, sabbatical leaves, and voting privileges.
- Librarians are full members of the Voting Faculty.
- Library Faculty have governance body (FEC), bylaws, & criteria for tenure and promotion.
- 49 Library Faculty at UB.
- Libraries are integrated into the academic, service, and research missions of the university.

Bylaws, Article II. Power and Duties of the Voting Faculty

1. The Voting Faculty shall advise the administrative officers of the University and other appropriate persons and bodies regarding any matters affecting the instructional, research, and service programs of the University, including, but not limited to, matters relating to the quality of student and faculty life on the campuses of the University.

Bylaws of the Voting Faculty, State University of New York at Buffalo

<http://faculty-senate.buffalo.edu/bylaws/bylaws.pdf>

Bylaws Article II. Powers and Duties of the Voting Faculty

3. The Voting Faculty shall review, prior to adoption, all proposals regarding:
 - (a) Formation, reorganization, or dissolution of academic units;

Consultation Timeline

- 1/1/14: Reorganization announced in VPUL email to Library Faculty/Staff
- Jan - Oct 2014: Reorganization discussed at Library Directors' Council
- 2/19/14: VPUL presented reorganization details at Library Town Forum
- 5/7/14: Meeting of Faculty Senate Library & Information Technology (IT) Committee
- 5/13/14: VPUL email to Library Faculty/Staff re Associate University Librarian (AUL) positions: "... senior leadership of the university that has seen the plan has reacted very enthusiastically."
- 7/9/14: AUL for Discovery & Delivery (faculty) internal search announced
- 7/14/14: AUL for Research/Education/Outreach (faculty) internal search announced
- 7/31/14: AUL for Technology (professional) search announced
- 8/15/14: VPUL Meeting with Chair of FS Library & IT Committee
- 8/18/14: AUL for Administration (professional) search announced

Consultation Timeline (continued)

Fall 2014: Searches conducted

11/5/14, FSEC: FS Library & IT Committee Report by Chair - No mention of reorganization. Complete report requested for later meeting.

3/6/15: New AULs announced by VPUL to Library Faculty/Staff

3/9/15: New Supervisors assigned by VPUL to some Library Faculty/Staff

Spring 2015: FEC discussions on dossier preparation, definitions of new units, communication with campus, AUL responsibilities

4/8/15, FSEC: Questions to Provost re decanal review & VPUL, impact of reorganization on tenure process, merge of library units

4/15/15, FSEC: Discussions with Provost on whether reorganization required FS approval. FS Chair reports that VPUL said the FS Library & IT Committee knew about and supported the reorganization and that Library Faculty/Staff were in support.

Consultation Timeline (continued)

4/29/15, FSEC: FS Library & IT Committee charged to present report at first Fall 2015 faculty meeting

5/6/15: Spring Library Faculty Meeting - reorganization discussed

9/9/15, FSEC: Questions re why no FS vote on Library reorganization

9/28/15: VPUL coffee hour with FEC included announcement by VPUL that all deans were consulted

Fall 2015: New organization and AULs announced in *UB Libraries Today*

10/14/15, FSEC: Provost discussions on reorganization and FS consultation, lack of feedback to Provost from Library Faculty on the reorganization

11/6/2015: FEC contacted Chair of FS Library & IT Committee for clarification on the Report

Sources consulted: Faculty Senate & FSEC minutes, FEC minutes, VPUL internal blog posts and emails to library faculty/staff, FS Committee on Library & IT report to FS

Issues and Concerns

- **Units eliminated:** Access Services, Arts & Sciences Libraries, Central Technical Services, Collections, Health Sciences Library, Music Library, Public Services.
- **New units created:** Administration; Discovery & Delivery; Research, Education & Outreach; Technology.
- **No prior consultation:** No evidence of consultation with Faculty Senate or FSEC before the reorganization. FS Library & IT Committee consultations occurred during reorganization; not clear if with full Committee or Chair and VPUL.
- **No vote:** The Faculty Senate did not vote on the reorganization prior to its adoption.

Thank you!

2015/16 Faculty Executive Committee,
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