University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Faculty Senate Library Committee Meeting
Monday, October 27, 2014

Dean Carolyn Allen will be presenting a brief overview of the “state of the Libraries” to the Faculty Senate in November. She previewed the information given and Powerpoint presentation with the Faculty Senate Library Committee in order to get their feedback and suggestions for streamlining or improving the information.

Due to confusion over academic, fiscal, and calendar years, all slides with be titled with the span of the fiscal year, i.e., “Fiscal Year 2013-2014” in order to be clear.

The slides show a disparity between social and hard sciences’ materials expenditures and Humanities expenditures. In part, this is due to the cost of materials in the sciences and the rapidly changing programs and new programs in the sciences, which require more materials to support.

The committee recommended the dean drop the slides presenting the campaign goals from the presentation.

The dean noted that the Libraries current have a $42 million endowment, which is the second largest for a public research library in the United States.

We continue to have a one in, one out policy in serials, due to the average annual increase of 10% in serials subscriptions. This policy is detrimental to the growth of the University and the natural evolution of its programs. Many graduate students rely on specialty materials that do not get high use elsewhere. The lower use titles are typically those that are cancelled when cuts have to be made.

We need to grow out collections substantially to support the level of research that is expected of the faculty in this university. We need a materials budget of $20 million annually fully to support the existing doctoral programs.