Faculty Senate Library Committee

8/23/24 Short-notice meeting

Attendees: Jennifer Laws, Julia Scherba de Valenzuela, John Davis-Secord, Min Ro, Shihong Li, Owen Wooley, Melissa Rethlefsen (ex-officio), Michelle Rigual (ex-officio), Maheswari Muruganandam, Marios Pattichis

Guests: Mark Emmons, Amy Jackson, Kathleen Garcia

Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

The committee received an update and briefing from University Libraries administrators regarding the service outage that began July 2024.

Some details cannot be shared due to security requirements.

The impacts across campus were diverse. Continuing impacts as of this meeting date:

* A number of small background systems still unavailable
* Interlibrary loan issues – articles being sent from other institutions being blocked
* Laptop checkout to students unavailable
* LoboGit service not functioning

Gratitude expressed to Kathleen Garcia, UNM IT, and Melissa Rethlefsen and the HSLIC team for their hard work and varied contributions to bringing services back online safely.

The aftermath of this network disruption:

* Questions about interface between Library services and IT services
* Some academic departments have encountered IT management issues in the past, notable lack of resources in UNM IT to provide needed support services.
* CULLS IT needs are diverse and unique, range from large to small, tend to be time-sensitive and may not be a good match to the current service levels available from UNM IT.
* UNM IT may not have the capacity to take the lead on data management and governance at the scale required by University Libraries.

Dean Leo Lo and his team have a meeting scheduled with UNM IT at the end of August to discuss cybersecurity and IT management questions. The hope and plan is to pursue a collaborative approach to ensure consistent service levels and cybersecurity.

Consistent theme: UNM IT has a pattern of underestimating the level and complexity of IT use by academic libraries.

Consensus: a mismatch between CULLS IT needs and UNM IT service and resources would have serious campus-wide impacts that affect the university’s core academic mission.

Homework: the chair asked members to reflect on library and research needs in their own departments/teams and prepare a list of priorities to inform future discussions about IT governance at University Libraries.

A second Fall 2024 committee will be scheduled at a later point in the semester.