New Brunswick Libraries Faculty

Annual Report

2010-2011

New Brunswick Libraries Faculty membership encompasses Librarians I through Librarians V who report to the Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services and the librarians from the Center of Alcohol Studies and the School of Management and Labor Relations.

New Brunswick Libraries Faculty meetings are a forum for communication between members, and between members and the Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services. The New Brunswick Libraries Faculty (NBLF) is also composed of two functional teams: the New Brunswick Collections Group (NBCG) and the New Brunswick Information Services Group (NBISG), which hold their own working sessions. According to amendments to the Bylaws of September 10, 2010, NBLF convenes at least twice a semester, with additional meetings called as necessary. In the fall semester of 2010, NBLF met three times: September 10, October 22, and December 10. In the spring semester of 2011 the faculty also met three times: February 11, April 8, and June 10. Members engaged in discussions on the following issues:

Collection Development and Management:

See separate NBCG report.

Services and Enhancements for Users:

The NBLF chair invited Jeanne Boyle, Associate University Librarian for Planning and Organizational Research, to the October meeting to talk about the Counting Opinions Customer Satisfaction Survey and to discuss our potential role in addressing the data gathered. It was decided that it was important for the New Brunswick Library Faculty to review the optional, written comments at least once a year. Reference teams analyzed and discussed the comments for their respective libraries. Information gleaned will be useful for improving services for our users. Many comments concerned specific facilities that need attention. Plans for improving spaces are underway in many buildings in order to address these concerns. Several statements regarding our collections or website indicated that users are not finding resources that we do in fact provide through our website. Some comments regarding specific services were forwarded to appropriate bodies, such as NBISG, for consideration. See also separate NBISG report.
Support for Instruction:

See separate NBISG report.

Communications:

The NBLF chair invited Rhonda Marker, RUcore manager, to attend the February NBLF meeting. She and Jim Niessen led a discussion on issues regarding embargoed electronic dissertations and theses.

The NBLF chair invited Ryan Womack, Data and Economics librarian, to give a presentation at the April meeting on the libraries involvement with data management and the RUresearch Data Portal.

Facilities:

Several current New Brunswick libraries facilities initiatives are a direct result of listening to our users via the Counting Opinions survey. See “Services and Enhancements for Users” above.

Personnel:

In September, the group welcomed Gideon Thompson, the new RUL diversity intern, to the New Brunswick Library Faculty.

In December, NBLF had a substantial discussion regarding several new lines granted to the Rutgers University Libraries. Our sense of priority for these lines, as well as input on position profiles, was summarized by the chair for input to the Planning and Coordinating Committee process.

Marianne Gaunt, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian, was invited to the February meeting. She provided an update on the search for an Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services, distributed a draft position profile, and asked NBLF for comments.

The New Brunswick Libraries tenured faculty elected Kevin Mulcahy as ad hoc chair for the three anticipated reappointment actions for 2011-12.

The new Digital User Services Librarian, Joseph Deodato, joined the faculty in June. The NBLF chair organized an extensive orientation to RUL for him.
Sara Harrington, Art Librarian, departed Rutgers to pursue other goals and opportunities.

Several New Brunswick librarians are members of the search committee for a new Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services.

Budget:

In September the New Brunswick faculty voted as to how to allocate travel funds to tenured and non-tenured/tenure track members. Marty Kesselman and Jackie Mardikian, co-chairs of the NBLF travel committee, managed the funds throughout the year. In November, the NBLF chair and the travel committee initiated a meeting with Mary Fetzer, interim Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services, and her administrative assistant to streamline travel procedures. Since NBLF follows RUL travel procedures, it was decided that forms will no longer be handled by the NBLF travel committee. The committee will continue to monitor, and to distribute fairly, available funds throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Gardner

NBLF Chair, 2010-2011

July 7, 2011