

February 6, 2017

TO:

Faculty Senate

FROM:

R. Gerald Turner, President

RE:

Resolution on Increased Support for SMU Libraries

SMU remains steadfastly committed to ensuring that our faculty and students have access to outstanding library resources for our scholarly research, creative, and teaching activities. The University's investments in library resources will be considered in conjunction with a campus-wide dialogue, beginning during spring of 2017, about how best to position SMU libraries for success in the 21st century. As a first step, during March of 2017, the Provost will identify and charge a faculty and staff task force to develop aspirations regarding the future of libraries at SMU. Our planning regarding libraries will also take place in the context of the announcement by Gillian McCombs, Dean and Director of Central University Libraries (CUL), of her plans to retire during summer of 2017. In addition to articulating the vision for SMU libraries, the task force's findings will inform the priorities for the next Dean and Director. The search for a new Dean and Director will begin during summer of 2017 (at which time an interim Dean and Director of CUL will be announced). The search is expected to conclude in summer of 2018.