

Memorandum

To: Thomas Boyd, Interim Provost

From: Faculty Senate

Date: December 12, 2017

Subject: Library Expansion and Renovation

During the Spring 2017 semester, the faculty of the Arthur Lakes Library engaged the campus and broader community in a sustained conversation about the library's renovation plans and vision. In Fall 2017, The Faculty Senate Library Committee summarized the library's vision here: http://library.mines.edu/UserFiles/File/library/PDF/Vision_Docs/MinesLibrary_at_150.pdf. Additional documents on the library's mission, strategic plan, renovation vision, and pathways of distinction can be found at: <http://library.mines.edu/LIB-About>.

The Faculty Senate Library Committee distributed a survey and sought faculty input on the proposed library strategic direction and renovation scope. The survey opened on October 23rd, 2017 and closed on November 6th, 2017. The survey results clearly indicate that CSM faculty favor a full renovation of the library and an increase of the physical space of the library.

72 out of 360 faculty responded in the survey. This is a 20% response rate.

84.7% respondents support the **vision summarized by Faculty Senate Library Committee** (full agreement, very much in agreement, and somewhat agree).

84.7% respondents support a **full renovation** of the library (full agreement, very much in agreement, and somewhat agree).

73.6% respondents support the idea that the library's **physical space needs to increase** (full agreement, very much in agreement, and somewhat agree).

Faculty Senate strongly supports an expansion and renovation of the library to accommodate the growing number of students at CSM, the lack of classroom and office space on campus, and the Arthur Lakes Library's goals, including but not limited to: a Center for Scholarly Communications, a STEM Business Incubator, a Student Success Center (that brings together CASA, the Writing Center, and tutoring services), and distinctive STEAM programs.

Faculty Senate Library Committee Chair

Paula Farca pfarca@mines.edu

Attachments

Data Analysis of Faculty Senate Library Survey

Data Analysis of Faculty Senate Library Survey

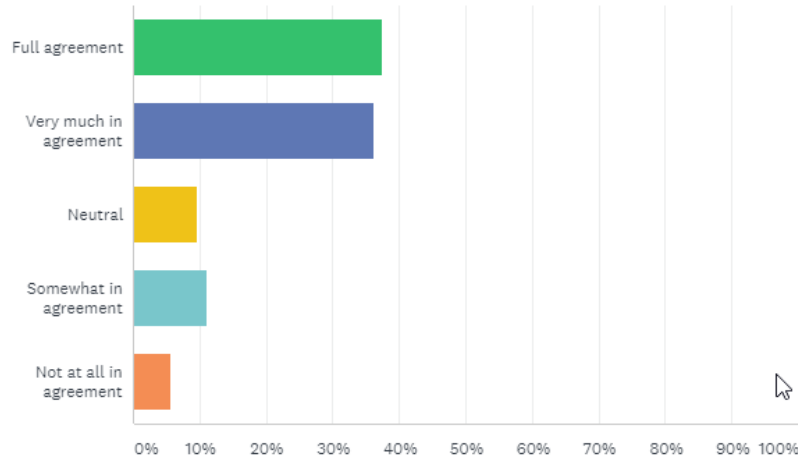
Q1

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How would you rate your support for the vision described in Mines @ 150: Our Roadmap?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Full agreement	37.50% 27
Very much in agreement	36.11% 26
Neutral	9.72% 7
Somewhat in agreement	11.11% 8
Not at all in agreement	5.56% 4
TOTAL	72

[Comments \(13\)](#)

Work with ORA to expand a database of research solicitations. In addition, build upon historical archives (USGS, CGS & Bureau of Mines)
The campus deserves an updated library with updated resources and services.
i would prefer to see an overall roadmap for all buildings on campus- so that there is a clear plan on the best optimized choices
I support goals 1 and 2, but not goals 3 and 4.
One thing I don't like is that they call us only a world class research institute..what we SHOULD want to be is a world class educational institute...without the education piece, Mines wouldn't exist, irrespective of the research.
The goals are lofty but they should be sought for a world class university.
Carol has brought a fresh vision to campus and is working to raise campus awareness of what a good library should be. I've seen what newer academic libraries are like, and ours is worn out and tired in comparison. I don't see how we can effectively recruit and serve students without a major commitment to a new library. It's a competitive issue.

The library deserves to be renovated and improved so Mines can offer its students, faculty, and staff a high-quality experience.

This Roadmap reflects reality: libraries serve different yet still important functions in the 21st century.

Nothing noted about actual needs: greater student space and less collections.

Mines is in desperate need of this sort of evolutionary upgrade. One of the key features that I use to understand a university is its library. Ours does not send out a great message right now. We need to realize the vision described here.

This initiative is long overdue, in my opinion.

Needs to be understood in the context of other efforts across campus.

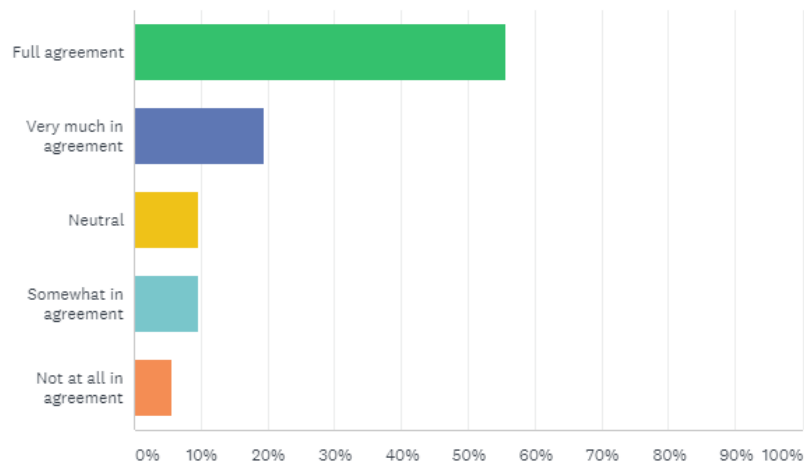
Q2

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How would you rate your agreement that the library requires a full renovation?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Full agreement	55.56% 40
Very much in agreement	19.44% 14
Neutral	9.72% 7
Somewhat in agreement	9.72% 7
Not at all in agreement	5.56% 4
TOTAL	72

[Comments \(11\)](#)

The inflexible 1950s building with its 1970s addition doesn't meet the needs of Mines.

I think there are different priorities that have broader impact

I strongly support the committee's vision for a world-class and modernized library at Mines, but am compelled to share my knowledge of the engineering constraints. I am a structural engineer and architect and I have studied the library's superstructure through my own observations and through

research of the archival drawings. In order to "open up" the library and achieve the vision described in the documents, the building will essentially have to be gutted and a new superstructure and substructure would have to be built. In other words, based on my knowledge of the building structure and systems, this is more of a "demolish and replace" than a "renovation" -- VERY expensive and VERY disruptive. In addition to the cost of such a project, I find that certain characteristics of the library are very unique and special (the terra cotta block construction, for example) and from a historic preservation standpoint, should not be discarded without careful consideration. If the project goes forward, I would strongly suggest a ~\$15,000 feasibility study with an A/E team before putting any more time or effort into this initiative. I expect that they will reach the same conclusions that I have.

Long, long overdue. Let's not spend another 10 years just talking about it.

I feel like there are larger priorities on campus. Many departments don't have enough space for offices.

The central part of the Library was completed in 1954 and the addition to the west in 1978. Power outlets, study rooms for groups of 4 or more, interactive presentation space, and spaces for quiet study are all lacking in the current building. The areas that house the book stacks are not up to modern codes for offices or study spaces.

It's overdue.

Not sold that it needs to be larger. Full renovation and modernization, absolutely.

See comment above. There is simply not enough room in the library's current state. It is not worthwhile to do a partial renovation. If we are going to do this, let's do it right and make it innovative and sustainable.

Clearly, the building housing the library should be renovated and the space reimaged.

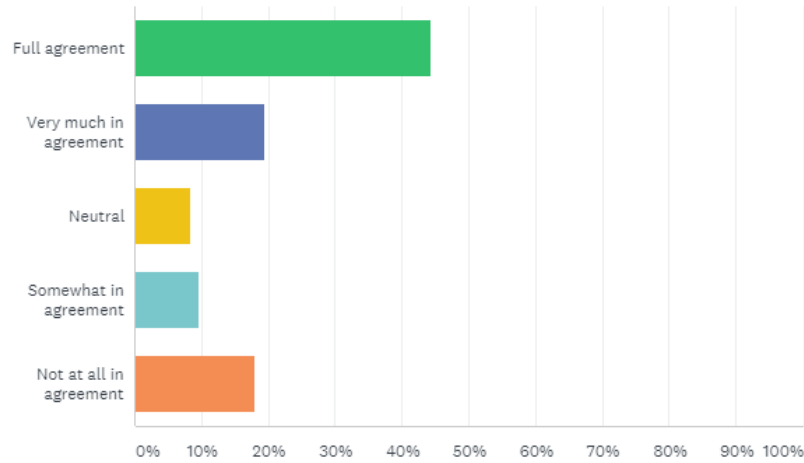
Not the best use of funds

Q3

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How would you rate your agreement that the library's physical size needs to expand?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Full agreement	44.44% 32
Very much in agreement	19.44% 14
Neutral	8.33% 6
Somewhat in agreement	9.72% 7
Not at all in agreement	18.06% 13
TOTAL	72

Comments (13)

- As an academic learning center, the building should logically support the Library, tutoring, writing center, technology studios, etc.--This won't work without more space.
- there is a lot of "dead space" in the library that could be used in better ways,but I also think that in order to properly incorporate all of the additional spaces the vision discusses,more square footage is needed.
- Not sure how much expansion is viable considering our school's physical limitations but definitely need some growth.
- From the perspective of library users, yes, it needs to expand. However, considering the constraints around the building (building out) and considering the constraints of the superstructure itself (building up or building down), expansion may not be feasible.
- If we're going to renovate, let's get it right. We need to think about Mines in 20, 30, 40 years, not just today.
- If anything, libraries can be smaller nowadays. Unless there is a plan to put a department in there, I think it can remain the same size.
- If the library is to accommodate additional technological space, then the footprint needs to be larger.
- Overall, agreed. Couple comments about this though: (1) since much material is being moved from print to online in this day and age, it seems that the expansion would not be needed to house more

material. (2) Having more space that would enable meetings, innovation, and teaching would be fantastic.
With the collections held elsewhere and with fewer labs (which do not need to be in the Library), there's plenty of space.
See comment above.
Library expansion must be incorporated into overall Mines campus planning
The library should be the center for student educational expansion--not an afterthought--expansion, modernization is desperately needed. Many students and parents measure a school, and whether they will attend, on the quality of a library!
Placing the cart before the horse. Without reimagining the space, and doing so in the broader context of space utilization/renovation needs/desires across campus I have no basis on which to frame a meaningful answer.

Q4

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Do you have any additional comments, questions, or concerns about the proposed library strategic direction and renovation scope?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 42

Centers and Institutes on Campus develop to meet unique and often interdisciplinary & collaborative needs unfilled by conventional departments and academic pursuits. Like the Geology Museum, the Centers for Space Research, Hydrology and others could dramatically improve their missions by having their unique needs built into the new library renovations...
Please see comments above
Mines is way behind the curve with its library as an academic student-centered space. Just look around the state at other universities.
Create a long term strategic plan for the campus- which can be a 2025 plan or 2050. But make something that shows how each of these individual efforts builds to a consolidated well thought through plan for the campus, vs asking for feedback on individual plans without context for the full campus
For the increased classroom space, there will be a need for additional infrastructure & staffing resources to support the technology to be implemented. Perhaps looking at expanding CCIT's TSC to include a "branch" at the library might be helpful to that end.
Please recognize the difference between social sciences and humanities. These two broad categories of the liberal arts are very different and should be recognized as such. While the library has been responsive to the arts/humanities, I see less understanding of and responsiveness to social sciences such as political science, sociology, and geography.
How do you plan to fund it?
No.
I am happy to share my knowledge on the library superstructure to interested parties.
The library should be the heart of the university. Presently Lakes is treated as an unwanted step child. To achieve this excellent vision resources and space are needed. The new library is an ideal candidate for a gift from a major donor.
We have a new library leader with the vision, energy, and enthusiasm to bring Mines bigger, better library. Let's support her. What is there to lose? What is the downside?

I once heard a plan to put HASS in the library. That would make sense. I'm not sure otherwise why more space is needed. If the new space is for general purpose classrooms, that's fine. Classrooms are needed. If it's for library-only classrooms, I think there are more pressing needs.
Let's get this done!
I'm a little concerned about all the entrepreneurial focus because I value learning for learnings' sake more than for profit.
We must act within budgetary constraints.
It sounds wonderful and needed.
Is the proposed student success center in the library? If yes, I think people who are mentioned should be involved the conversation as they were not for the Mines @ 150 document presented.
Do not actually cut any of the library functions while adding in - the research and library components need to remain.
Outstanding universities usually have libraries that glue the campus together, (and yes, good looking too).
Please create large amount of small study rooms (individuals and small groups) for students and visiting scientists.
I would like to see a transformative renovation of the library--both in physical footprint and intellectual engagement take place as soon as possible.
No great university is successful without a great library
Library must cater to students and faculty alike. The current library is a bit frozen in the last century and many users on campus have little imagination about how a modern library can transform both student and faculty experience.
Campus and consulting architects, along with CSM administrators, need to update their concepts of what a 21st-century university library can and should be.
Just don't do away with the books. Expand the use of e repository. Aggressively lower the cost of periodicals yet increase number.
I agree with the renovation plan because the library's physical space should reflect our growing number of students. The library's initiatives and activities should be integrated in the Mines curricula.
I feel like such a crumudgeon writing this, but why do we need the library to "ensure integrity of Mines research output" - that's the job of all researchers, or "state-of-the-art technology to bolster research competencies" - that's the faculty's job, or for entrepreneurship to be library-based, or makerspace librarians?
I wonder if the vision can be fulfilled without expanding the footprint of the library? I don't know, just a question I would ask before committing fully to support a full-on library renovation.
We need to have our student academic services housed in the library--the Writing/Communication Center, Tutoring services, etc.--should be centralized.

Q5

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Optional: If you would like to identify yourself, please enter your name, email, title and department/division:

Answered: 8 Skipped: 64

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