UBC Library External Review 2022

External Review Team

Terms of Reference

Purpose: To evaluate the operation, management, and service role of the UBC Vancouver Library system with emphasis on its achievements, the scope and balance of its various functions, the effectiveness of its leadership and administration, and the opportunities and challenges it faces in the future.

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Without limiting its overall mandate, the review team should consider the following:

1. Organization, administration and operations:
   a) Is UBC Library effectively organized to serve the University's needs? Does the current organizational structure meet the Library's operational needs?
   b) How effectively does the Library work as a system across both UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan campuses? Is the Library, including the University Librarian and the Associate University Librarians, effectively embedded in administrative and academic structures within the UBC two-campus system?
   c) In what ways, and to what effect, are librarians, staff, and users across the University and the wider community consulted?
   d) How does the Library participate in and reflect the University's priorities in equity, diversity, and inclusion in its hiring practices, its collections, and its spaces and services?
   e) How does the Library support the goals of the University's Strategic Indigenous Plan?
   f) How effective is the overall leadership of the University Librarian and the senior management team?

2. Infrastructure and financial resources:
   a) Is the Library adequately resourced to meet the needs of its users in all areas of research and inquiry?
   b) Are financial resources enough to develop adequate and appropriate collections for existing, new and emerging academic programs and initiatives?
   c) What models are available to understand the appropriate collections budget needed to run a library at a university like UBC?

3. Physical resources:
   a) Are UBC Library's spaces, teaching facilities, equipment, and technology adequately supported and maintained to support learning and research innovation at UBC and provide an enriching environment for existing and new academic programs?
   b) Are physical spaces and technological resources well serviced and maintained for users and employees who may have special needs?

4. Collection resources:
   a) Are UBC Library's collections and related services (such as licensing, cataloguing, rare books and archives, copyright management, and resource sharing) properly resourced to support UBC's current and anticipated needs in teaching, learning, research and innovation?
   b) How effective is the Library in communicating the nature and extent of its holdings and services, and in demonstrating the essential value of the UBC Library to the UBC teaching, learning and research community?

5. Campus and community engagement:
   a) Is the Library meeting the current needs, and anticipating the future needs, of the faculties, departments, institutes, and centres across its campuses?
   b) How well does the UBC Library communicate and collaborate with faculties, departments, and other units?
   c) How effectively does the UBC Library collaborate with other university libraries and relevant provincial and national government entities?
   d) In what ways, and how effectively, does the UBC Library engage with the broader BC community and beyond?
   e) How does the Library support the University's important relationship with the Musqueam First Nation?
   f) What role has the UBC Library played in the activities of local, national, and international library organizations?

6. Reputation and future development:
   a) What steps has senior administration of the Library taken to strengthen the Library's reputation nationally and internationally?
   b) Advise on opportunities for future development and growth. What strengths should the Library build on and advance?