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## Faculty Senate Resolution 15-17

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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## FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 15–17

# Supporting LSU Library Revitalization

*Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Library Committee*

Whereas, the LSU library is an essential element controlling the national ranking of the One LSU;

Whereas the library is essential to effectively carrying out LSU's land grant missions of research, teaching, and extension;

Whereas, the regular and ongoing acquisition of a broad array of research publications as well as the subscription to a wide range of periodicals is absolutely critical to successful research and high-quality teaching at any university;

Whereas the Library serials collection cost of \$5.4 Million/year is growing at an annual rate of 6-7%, which has created a serials budget shortage of \$1.2 Million;

Whereas the serial budget shortfall has reduced the budgets for staff positions and books;

Whereas budget constraints have reduced book funding to \$135,000 per year, while our Flagship 2020 peer institutions spend approximately \$1 million per year on book purchases;

Whereas LSU's expanding enrollment and evolving library usage is placing increasing demand on library facilities as indicated by the eResource usage data, i.e. over 1.5 million downloads of full text articles in FY2015 which is a 23% increase since FY2013;

Whereas the linking of the various campuses in One LSU will create greater demand for access to Middleton facilities;

Whereas approximately 70,000 full text article/chapter denials from 5700 unique titles were recorded in calendar year 2014. Denials reflect limitations of the LSU library collections;

Whereas new programs or new emerging concentrations in existing programs are not supported with the current library collection and the current library budget does not allow for the acquisition of new books and serials important for these new programs and concentrations;

Whereas the LSU Library investment index ranks it 108 out of 115 Association of Research Libraries members;

Whereas the LSU library budget is not adjusted for inflation;

Therefore be it resolved that an extremely high priority be placed upon increasing the library budget to cover serials budget gaps annually and to support acquisition of serials critical for new concentrations and programs;

Therefore be it further resolved that the annual book budget be increased to place the library on par with its peers while it also supports the acquisition of books critical to new programs and concentrations.