UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

LIBRARIES’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE & CHARGE
The purpose of the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) is to provide a forum for representatives of the academic community to discuss issues pertaining to the University Libraries. Issues discussed may include relevant topics such as the services, collections, facilities, and access to information at any University Library. The LAC may research and provide information and/or recommendations to the Provost on such issues.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
- Represent the member college’s perspectives and needs
- Represent the University Libraries’ perspective and needs
- Provide a conduit for information to flow between the Colleges, the Libraries and the Provost’s Office
- Research and assess Library related issues, making recommendations where appropriate
- Balance and prioritize requests made of the Libraries
- Promote the creation of a research library system equal to the academic needs of the University

CHALLENGES/CONSIDERATIONS
Budgetary constraints and the rapidly evolving culture, resources and delivery methods of libraries

COMMUNICATION
- Members solicit issues of interest or concern from their colleagues
- Members give feedback and reports from LAC to their colleagues
- Committee Chair makes regular reports of LAC discussions to the Provost and to the University Libraries Leadership Team
- Minutes will be taken and kept by the Libraries’ Administrative Offices

TIMETABLE
Ongoing. The group usually meets quarterly.

OUTCOMES/PRODUCTS/DELIVERABLES
Libraries that fully support the academic mission and goals of the University.

REPORTING
The LAC reports to the Provost who will attend meetings when necessary.

RECOMMENDATION/DECISION PROCESS
The Chair may make decisions regarding routine library matters. Matters that have broader impact or that require budgetary support will be taken by the Chair to the Provost for final decision.
MEMBERSHIP & TERM OF APPOINTMENT
The Dean of University Libraries is a standing member and serves as Chair. Other membership includes one representative appointed from each of the degree granting Colleges of the University; a student member appointed by the Student Government Association and a Gulf Coast representative appointed by the GC Faculty Senate. Members may send an alternate if they cannot attend. The term of appointment for these members is typically two years and allows for staggered membership.

Effective: 1/16/09
Last Revised: 6/26/17