UConn Library
2020 Budget Hearing

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March 2020
Important Issues

An R1 university requires an R1 library, UConn Library exists to serve the needs of UConn but is currently not resourced to do so:

- With planned rescissions, there will be catastrophic cuts to the collections that will have a significant impact on students and researchers

- UConn Library has spent the last year shoring up our staffing structure and filling vacant positions, however we remain understaffed for the needs of an R1 university

- There is currently no funding for strategic directions or initiatives. Years of budget cuts have left the library at bare bones funding

University goals to double research, and contribute to life transformative education at scale will not be fully realized without appropriate investment in the library
Major Challenges

- **Rescissions**
  - Over $6 million in cuts since FY2015
  - Planned elimination of ~80% of journal subscriptions to meet rescissions
  - Creating new workflows for increased interlibrary loan and document delivery through changing user access discovery mechanisms
  - Possible reduction in open hours and student staffing

- **Staffing**
  - Resolving long-standing vacancies
  - Continued missing departments and functions
  - High fringe rate keeps our staffing levels low compared with R1 peers

- **Facilities**
  - Low capital investments and a small operating budget to support eight libraries
  - Postponed master plan work on Homer Babbidge Library
  - Need to resolve egress issues at HBL (external staircase) before other projects can be undertaken
From the 2018 ARL statistics, UConn compared with our peers and aspirant peers (as set by OIRE). Data includes UConn Health Sciences Library and UConn Law Library.
UConn Library expenditures only, does not include Health or Law library expenditures.
*From the Associate of Research Library statistics. Data includes UConn Health Sciences Library and UConn Law Library
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UConn Full-time Instructional Faculty against FTE UConn Library Staff

19% increase

25% decrease
Total library spend calculated by dividing UConn Library total expenditures by FT number of grad and undergrad students each year.
In FY22, in addition to the one-time rescission, $500k would be reallocated from Journal Expenditures to ILL support, this would bring the total expenditure down to $1.5M.
2020 Initiatives

- Implementing the Strategic Framework
- Cutting collections to match budget
- Construction of external stairwell to resolve egress issues
- Continue to fill vacant positions