

Proposal to Faculty Council:

The Faculty Research Grants Committee moves that we adopt the following proposal:

Library Faculty be eligible to apply for FRG starting in academic year 2013-2014 (FRG program year 2014-2015). Associate and Full Professors will be considered senior faculty; however, new library faculty Assistant Professors would not be eligible to resubmit their proposals in the Spring round as are first- and second-year assistant professors whose proposals were not funded during the Fall competition.

Rationale:

1. Library faculty at UNC Charlotte do not have a tenure-track available to them¹, but do have professional responsibilities to carry out their own research and grant-writing activities. Reappointment and promotion of library faculty has research requirements.
2. Library Faculty are currently eligible for the Center for Teaching and Learning's SoTL grants, so there is a precedent for Library Faculty competing with tenured and tenure-track faculty for on-campus grant money.
3. External funding proposals are increasingly generated by library faculty. Some of these are large institutional proposals. FRGs can facilitate securing larger external grants at a later stage.
4. Library faculty are on 12-month contracts and would not be in a position to be paid summer salary if they were to be awarded a FRG.
5. If library faculty are officially allowed to apply for FRGs, collaborative projects with other faculty will be easier.
6. The above recommendation was approved by the FRG Committee.

The FEC recommends that this proposal be amended as follows: All full-time Faculty members with the title of Assistant Professor or higher whose job description includes professional expectations for research are eligible to apply.

¹ There are currently only 5 Library Faculty members (out of 25 altogether) left on staff who earned tenure before the library faculty tenure track was shut down in 2004.