

February 19, 2008

Dr. Thomas Hanson
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dear Dr. Hanson:

The members of the Library Council believe that the libraries of Northwestern State University should receive at least an additional \$100,000 funding for new monograph purchases.

NSU's libraries are integral to the mission of the University and its constituent parts. Despite this imperative, new book acquisitions are dramatically under funded for FY08. Internet access and the databases available through Watson Library's web site are helpful but limited. They do not represent the full range of information and commentary available—especially scholarly information and commentary.

A number of units of the university are currently going through the reaccreditation process; the members of the Library Council are concerned that the inadequacy of the print collection, especially in disciplines working through reaccreditation, might jeopardize the desired result. Representatives of accrediting agencies have commented on the lack of crucial and recent books in various fields. The availability of print material also permits students to explore material in ways not possible through electronic sources.

Considering the major windfall funding received by Northwestern this past year, the members of the Library Council urge that money be allocated to purchase new books. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

The Library Council Faculty Members:

William Brent, Claton Chandler, Nancy Curry, Walter Flomer, Darrell Fry, Philip Kidd, Gail Kwak,
Samuel Marshall, Helaine Rozovsky, Frank Schicketanz & Kathleen Smith

cc: Dr. Randall Webb, President
Dr. Steve Horton, Associate Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies and Research
Mr. Fleming Thomas, Director of Libraries