

*Resolution Honoring University Librarian Marianne Gaunt upon her Retirement from Rutgers*

Adopted by the Camden Faculty Council

January 29, 2015

Whereas in recognition of her thirty-five years of dedicated service to the Rutgers University Libraries and her astute and visionary leadership of our libraries system, the Camden Faculty Council, Rutgers University-Camden would like to honor Marianne Gaunt for her numerous contributions, among them:

1. The development and adoption of a copyright policy in 2007 and an open access policy adopted in 2012.
2. Under Gaunt's leadership, the Libraries have become a leader within the state's academic libraries, helping to create the Virtual Academic Library Environment of New Jersey (VALE) consortium and also actively supporting national efforts to develop an open source integrated library system (OLE).
3. Gaunt has secured support for a massive expansion and renovation of library facilities, a continuous upgrade of technology on all campuses, the recruitment of talented and creative librarians and staff whom she had encouraged to work collaboratively in productive partnerships with colleagues across the university, resulting in the receipt of federal grants, the development of new digital initiatives, and notable innovations in pedagogy.
4. Rutgers librarians and staff have built a technology infrastructure for the Libraries that garnered attention from the White House and continuously adapts itself to provide numerous digital services for faculty and students.
5. Most recently the Libraries successfully and seamlessly integrated two well-regarded formerly-UMDNJ health sciences libraries into its system.
6. One of the most revealing indicators of the successes of the Libraries is the fact that graduating students regularly rate the Rutgers University Libraries quite highly (90% or greater) in their exit surveys.

Be it resolved that, in order to build upon Marianne Gaunt's legacy, given the challenges facing the libraries system of escalating costs of digital information, the proliferation of new disciplines and areas of study needing the support of library resources, the shrinkage of state support for higher education, and the constant need for professional development to enable Rutgers librarians and staff to master the talents, tools, resources, and processes that will enhance their ability to support faculty and students in their work, Rutgers University should restore current proposed cuts to the libraries' budget and commit itself to future support of the libraries commensurate with our desire to be a world class university.