

**6 October 2003**  
**Report of the Committee of the Budget**  
**To The ECU Faculty Senate**

The Faculty Senate Budget Committee met on 2 October 2003.

Following the model established last year, the Committee resumed its study of major university budget areas. The Committee's first guest was Dr. Lee Van Orsdel, Dean of Libraries who provided a detailed and finely organized analysis of the effects of the current budget situation on the provision of services and materials to faculty, staff, and students. ECU is still playing catch-up to our benchmarks in overall resources provided the library. At the same time, the way that modern libraries function is being drastically altered. University libraries are operating in a high technology environment where their role is being redefined amid growing expectations for the electronic delivery of resources. However, as shown recently by the actions of Elsevier and others, the profit motive is driving decisions that will make it impossible for most libraries to continue to purchase access to many electronic journal copies. The Library has made significant progress in reclassifying positions and the elimination of several has provided the funds to upgrade remaining positions and bring them close to market.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of agenda items for the remaining meetings of the fall semester and the role of the FS Budget Committee as an information-gathering and/or dissemination group.

Respectfully submitted,

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Committee Member