


January 8, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From:  Jiayu Liao
Committee on Library and Information Technology

Re: 17-18. Campus Review: Consultation: Cluster Hiring Initiative: Status and Future Plans

The Committee on Library and Information Technology reviewed the 17-18. Campus Review: Consultation: Cluster Hiring Initiative: Status and Future Plans at their December 14, 2017 meeting. The LIT committee reviewed the cluster hiring within the last year and reviewed the process and outcomes. The committee thinks there are some disadvantages to CHASS as the nature of school does not have strong preference to certain topics and therefore not many cluster proposals were submitted. In addition, the large-scale cluster hire does not consider the constraints of computer resources, such as IT support and library, which are tight at current time. Although the cluster hiring does recruit a group of talented people, in considering current campus resources and need, the committee agreed that the cluster hires should be limited in 2018 as there is a drain on campus in general, including the budget (which is tight for many other more urgent needs). Particularly for the resources of library and information systems on campus, it is difficult to predict the library and IT resource needs without knowing what the new cluster hires are. The committee suggests that the campus prioritize the growth without large-scale cluster hiring and give autonomy back to the departments/college with balance of research and teaching needs.