

Student Library Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2016, 5:30 p.m.

Library Room 410

Roll Call:

Members of the Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) present:

Pratick Bakhtiani, Chairperson

Urvashi Saxena, Vice-Chairperson

Manoj Hulmani

Alex Rumsey, FIT University Innovation Fellow (arumsey2013@my.fit.edu)

Chris Woodle, FIT University Innovation Fellow (cwoodle2014@my.fit.edu)

Other Attendees:

Dr. Sohair Wastawy, Dean of Libraries

Nancy Garmer, Interim Assistant Dean, User Experience

Gwen Harris, Public Services Librarian

CALL TO ORDER

Nancy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the two University Innovation Fellows (UIF) introduced themselves and explained that UIF is a leadership group that empowers students to create change on campus. Jennifer Schlegel, Director of Innovation for the College of Engineering coordinates the FIT UIF group. The program was created by the National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (**Epicenter**), a five-year National Science Foundation grant. The University Innovation Fellows is now a program of Stanford University's Hasso Plattner Institute of Design (**d.school**). <http://universityinnovationfellows.org/about-us/program/>

Chris had previously met with Dr. Wastawy, Dean of Libraries, and she suggested they join the Student Library Advisory Council or at least have a representative at each meeting. Alex was one of the coordinators of the Hackathon that took place in the Library April 1-2.

Attention was turned to the current agenda at 5:53 p.m. The minutes from the March meeting were approved with no changes.

EVANS LIBRARY REPORT

- A. Nancy provided updates on Action Items from the previous SLAC meeting.
 1. The suggestion to have emails sent automatically when library items are checked back in was made at the previous meeting, so students would have proof that they turned an item in. However, Nancy and IT determined there would be very little practical value in it. Students already receive many emails that they do not read. Would one more be a burden? Also, having an email sent does not really help determine if the item has been returned or not. It was agreed to not pursue this idea.
 2. Library Administration conferred with Dining Services about the student-led suggestions for additions to the café. Angela will work to with them to add specific items over the summer. It was again suggested that different varieties of muffins daily would be nice.

3. SmartThinking-
Nancy explained that SmartThinking, is free, online tutoring assistance available to all students – online and on-campus. The hours are technically not limited, but they are set for 5 hours at registration. Those hours can be extended by request through Rodd Newcombe at the Academic Support Center or Danielle Schukoske at Online Learning.
 4. Photo Contest Winners
The winners of the Fall Photo Contest were posted on the river on the Library's website and copies of the photos were posted on the First Floor of the Library. The winners were also recognized at a Friday After Hours event. There will be another photo contest in the upcoming fall semester.
- B. Nancy requested input on how to better utilize social media to promote the Library. It was agreed that reaching everyone on campus is the million dollar question. Events should be posted as an event and also on the Library's timeline for maximum exposure; however, some algorithms in facebook will drop an event to the bottom if it is not responded to. In addition, events are automatically sent to everyone who likes the page and they will get automatic reminders. This could be quite intrusive. It may be better to target specific organizations and/or groups.
- C. According the Student Library Advisory Council guidelines, vacancies on the Council will be filled as needed. Everyone agreed that we should start asking for volunteers now, so we can have a full group ready to go in the fall. It was suggested that it would be good to have a UIF representative on SLAC. Discussion also ensued regarding meeting two times a month perhaps at different times of day to accommodate all the members. The idea of electing officers was also discussed. Is it better to have small, workable groups or one big group? Officer titles often create a level of expectation for the person to take an active role and step up to action.

It may be a good idea to have a Public Relations Officer who reaches out to connect with student groups; A Secretary to take minutes and A Social Media Coordinator. A T-shirt or nametag with their title helps create significance.

Interviewing applicants was suggested as a part of recruiting members for SLAC to determine their ideas and explain that the group would like active members who contribute and can be held accountable for some level of Library advocacy.

Orientation would also be a good opportunity to let new students know that they can be a part of something cool.

SLAC UPDATES / SUGGESTIONS

Urvashi had 106 students respond to her usage survey of the DSL. The results are posted in the SLAC folder on Google Drive. There are useful suggestions and comments from the students in addition to requests for additional tech lending items. One idea is to create a Hack Space, i.e. a computer science development area where platforms can be downloaded that are not connected to the network. This would be helpful to use with raspberry pis and arduinos.

Perhaps the Library should investigate laptop grants for the students who can't afford a laptop and need to borrow one every day.

Urvashi mentioned that since there will now be a google calendar for First Year Experience students, gear more of the After Hours events, like game night, to the FYE students and serve Free Pizza! Make them fun and creative. An art hackathon is another idea.

Alex and Chris, UIF, explained the conference they went to at the d.school: Institute of Design at Stanford University focusing on Design Centered Thinking. Chris shared some videos online and the book *Make Space*. They are interested in creating an innovation space somewhere in the Library or on campus and are working on a proposal.

ACTION ITEMS – Library

- Advertise for SLAC members
- Create a doodle poll for members to pick times to meet in Fall 2016
- Schedule Student Events
- Coordinate with Orientation team

ACTION ITEMS – SLAC

- See you in the fall!

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Student Library Advisory Council is scheduled for an, as yet, unspecified date and time in September, 2016.