Student Library Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Library Room 410

Roll Call:

Members of the Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) present:
Urvashi Saxena
Aabha Sant
Alex Rumsey
Thomas Haynie
Mike Patrick via Google Hangouts

Other Attendees:
Nancy Garmer, Acting Assistant Dean, User Experience + Learning

CALL TO ORDER

Nancy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The minutes from the last Student Library Advisory Council meeting, April 14, 2016, were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Mike Patrick requested clarification about the SmarThinking hours online students are allocated. Is it a one-time allocation of five hours or each semester when they register? Nancy responded that she believes the hours are given once and that students can request more if needed, but she will clarify.

EVANS LIBRARY REPORT

A. Nancy asked for volunteers or nominations for a new chair for the Student Library Advisory Council as Pratick graduated. Aabha Sant volunteered and was nominated by unanimous vote. Thomas Haynie volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair.

B. Nancy updated the members on changes at the Library. Dean Sohair Wastawy is on a leave of absence from FL Tech as she accepted a one-year position in Qatar as the director of their new National Library. Dr. Holly Miller is Acting Dean of Libraries for this period. Nancy is also now the Acting Assistant Dean of User Experience & Learning.

C. Nancy is now attending the Faculty Library Committee. The charter for this university-wide committee requires representation from all the Colleges at FL Tech. In addition, it requires a representative from the Student Library Advisory Committee to attend. The meetings are held every fourth Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. The next meeting will be in January. Aabha agreed to attend this meeting as well as Chair of SLAC.

D. The faculty committee requested a list of the Library events for each week be sent to them directly, so they may be posted in their individual departments. Nancy is hoping this well help get the word out about all the workshops and events the Library hosts.

Mike Patrick requested that the Library events list also be sent to Shane Santana to distribute to online students for online students who live in Melbourne or online students who can attend virtually. Nancy said she would reach out to him.

STUDENT LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

A. Urvashi suggested sending out a survey to students requesting input on After Hours events, the DSL and DSL workshops. There was discussion that the DSL workshops may be too specific and students still don't know what technology is available for lending and available in the DSL. She reiterated the need for a prominent posted on the DSL door highlighting all the technology lending items. Nancy stated that the Library is working on implementing the instructional tutorial videos on the computers in the DSL.

   The members agreed that the survey should go out once before Thanksgiving and again before finals week. Urvashi will work on the survey and share it with members for input via google drive.

B. Urvashi brought up complaints she has been hearing from students about the Library. There is a lot of grumbling about both the café closing and the printers not working well. Nancy explained that Library administration is frustrated about both of those things also.

   Aabha shared a printing complaint that was new to Nancy. She said on several occasions when she tried to print in Olin, she received a message that her card needed to be reauthorized. This happened to her twice and her friend once. It was a big issue because you can only re-authorize your Tracks at the Library copiers and the Library was closed. She thought perhaps it was because she had to change her Tracks password.

   Nancy said she would report the problem and encouraged the members to report, report, report any issues in the following form: http://t.fit.edu/copier

   Students don't like that the new system requires you to print only with your own Tracks account. It is very cumbersome for collaborative and group projects when one person in printing from a computer, but doesn't have their card or money on their card for some reason. Students liked the feature that they could use any card to print. It was easier to collaborate.

C. Urvashi has had people request that the Library purchase Oculus Rifts for the Tech Lending program. A quick google search had them coming in around $369.

D. Students complain that the 3rd floor is too noisy and it is a problem because the students need to be on the third floor to use the software on the computers. There is no monitoring of student behavior during study hall.

   The council members discussed that it would be good to have a pod of computers that are loaded with the 3rd floor software in a silent zone. Alex suggested the wooden carrels right outside Room 410. It would be quiet and private with the dividers between the desks.

E. Thomas relayed that some friends recently suggested that the Library needs to be more colorful and less depressing and that the Library should install one or two of the Bottle Refill fountains that they have in Crawford.

F. Aabha shared that she just received an email that esri is offering a free GIS MOOC. She will send Nancy the link.

G. Aabha also suggested that the Library host an undergraduate research showcase for students to become aware of what other students are working on. Only senior design gets attention, but it would be very nice for all undergraduates to present their research topics. Many other universities do this. It could be like an open mike night for undergraduate research, but also receive feedback from faculty and peers.

    Nancy had recently been looking at the three-minute thesis and dissertation presentations that was suggested to her by the director of online learning.

H. Thomas suggested something the University Innovation Fellows do: Pop-up Classes. http://universityinnovationfellows.org/tag/pop-up-classes/

I. Another area when international students could use some guidance is with the OPT (optical practical training) process. Both Urvashi and Aabha agree that students need much more counseling much earlier in the process about what their options and visa status is when they graduate.

    Nancy commented that there was just a seminar held this week about that topic. Urvashi responded that it is the only one all semester and it is late in the semester. International students need to know well in advance, so they can make plans for after graduate and seek an employer who can sponsor them.

J. Mike stated that there needs to be an equivalent First Year Experience course for online students. Mike works with student success and he said it is often difficult to bridge the services that on-campus students have access to versus online.

ACTION ITEMS – Library

- Faculty Library Committee – new student representative
- Share the link to the GIS MOOC
- Create a poster advertising the DSL technology and technology lending items

ACTION ITEMS – SLAC

- Draft student survey

Meeting Adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

The next meeting of the Student Library Advisory Council is **November 30, 2016 at 6 p.m.**