

Library and Media Services Meeting: November 30, 2010

Attending: Terri Fishel, Clay Steinman, Brian Longley, Nadia Stennes-Spidahl, Paul Fischer, Lynn Hudson, Terry Krier, Dave Collins, Angi Faiks, David Tomporowski, Jacki Betsworth.

Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved.

Outside Review Team Visit

- Library-Media Advisory members were impressed with the review team as a whole.
- Attendees reported wide-ranging discussion and sharing among departments. Sessions were educational for the attendees as well as the outside team. Participants were reminded of the broad constituency the library is called to serve.
- There seemed to be repeated focus on rare books in discussions, led by one of the outside team members. Mac does not currently have a rare books collection – we have some isolated rare books and small special collections, and a very specific collection of regional authors. We don't have a rare books librarian. We can support faculty access to the current collection, but we have no funds or plans to increase this collection. The archives are more important to Mac historically because they are currently the sole comprehensive collection point for history of the college. If recommendations include increased focus on rare collections, we have opportunities to discuss creative solutions, including bringing in special collections for limited periods. Our prime goal is to serve our current community. Attendees felt the time spent on rare books discussion during the review was disproportionate to its importance to the campus.
- Other topics discussed in sessions included: the liaison program; incorporation of the library into first year program; how we are staffed; the balance of staffing.
- The report is expected in early January. If it is not received, Kendrick Brown will follow up with the reviewers.

Library Hours

- An MCSG representative, James Zhou, contacted Terri regarding a survey done earlier this year that indicated students want more evening hours. They requested a 3 a.m. close time. Challenges to the request are funding, staffing, and security for both workers and students. Terri has not yet been able to meet in person with the representative to discuss the topic.
- History: Terri has previously addressed this issue with the Provost at the request of students, and last spring submitted for consideration a study of the estimated cost effects of increased library hours. Administration determined at that time that the library may not be the most appropriate location for an extended or 24x7 study space, for safety and budgetary reasons. Unless campus administration indicates that this has become a high priority for them and is able to fund the change, we do not plan to revisit the conversation in the near future. The library has already responded recently to community requests for more access by scheduling

additional open hours during break times and increasing weekend morning hours. The staff has taken up the slack of staffing the extra hours.

- Future options: Nadia, who regularly works library evening shifts, reported that the types of activities currently done by students from 9 p.m. – midnight involve few or no library services. If the Link had bathrooms, or if a limited portion of the first floor could be made available without opening the rest of the library, this need could be filled in our building with more limited staffing than a full opening of the building requires. Any option would need broad campus support beyond the library to become reality. Advisory Committee student reps could help educate students concerning where the most effective avenues on campus are to voice a need for change.

ACTION: Terri and David T. will follow up with James (MCSG) to discuss the request and our current position.

Printing in the Library

- In January, the library and ITS will begin implementing a system that will require users to sign in to gain printing access. Mac neighbors will have access to guest logins and will be able to print and pay for their copies at the reference desk. Cost will be \$.10 per page. The planning group is very focused on being respectful of privacy issues. The goal is not to track individual use, but to get a better sense of what is the average printing need per person. Both the library and the HRC will track printing.
- This test is not a punitive measure; it is intended as a useful tool for future printing discussions. Moodle's presence on campus has caused a shift of departmental printing costs to the library's program budget. Many students perceive the library as the "printing place," and some tour guides include free library printing as a talking point in their tour information. The true issue is which budget the printing costs come from; the numbers will be useful, but the conversation needs to happen regardless of the numbers.
- Committee members expressed concern that the ultimate outcome of this trial should not be to force professors to allow unwanted electronic devices in classrooms. Teaching our students is the most important thing, and budget dollars should support any printing necessary to that goal. Future decisions based on the findings should not negatively impact faculty's ability to teach as they teach best. The group also noted that cultural change, including e-textbooks, ipads, and other technology, is underway in many K-12 schools. We should be thinking proactively about ways to prepare for the transition when these students reach college age.
- After a semester of data collection, the library will share results with the Committee and will determine how to effectively share the information with community members.

Spring Representatives on Committee:

- This is our last meeting of the semester.
- David T. is studying abroad in spring. The committee wishes him well.

- Clay, Terry, Paul, Lynn, and Nadia will all remain on the committee during spring semester.

ACTION: All will get their office schedules to Terri by winter break, and she will create and share a spring schedule.

Announcements:

- Scott Stevens from Newberry Library will be this week's American Studies Colloquium speaker. He will discuss new directions in Native American studies. The event is at 11:45 on Thursday, December 2, in Humanities room 401. Lunch is provided. All are welcome.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Jacki Betsworth