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WRL: Library Student Advisory Board Minutes

Wyndham Robertson Library

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9-2020

### LSAB Minutes September 2020

Maryke Barber  
mbarber@hollins.edu

Rebecca L. Seipp  
*Hollins University*, seipprl@hollins.edu

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#### Recommended Citation

Barber, Maryke and Seipp, Rebecca L., "LSAB Minutes September 2020" (2020). *WRL: Library Student Advisory Board Minutes*. 1.  
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In attendance: Elizabeth Lauderdale, Mairwen Minson, Claire Gallo, Zahin Mahbuba, Rahma Zarrouki, Sarah Himes, Alexander Ernst, Maryke Barber, Luke Vilelle, and Rebecca Seipp

## I. Quick overview of LSAB for newbies

The goal of the Library Student Advisory Board (LSAB) is to have students play a role in how the library functions by providing feedback about services, collections and programs, and also to provide input on new programs. During the academic year we meet during the fall and spring semesters and invite students from all of Hollins' programs to participate – undergraduates (both traditional and Horizon students) and graduates.

## II. Guest: Luke

A little bit about Luke: He's been Hollins since 2007 and has been university librarian since 2012; before that he was at Virginia Tech. He was a rookie to liberal arts when he came to Hollins (having attended and worked at large state schools) and now he loves the liberal arts environment! He also has a wife and daughter, and he lives in Roanoke. From Luke:

- Beth Harris, our Special Collections Librarian and Archivist, passed away in late August from lymphoma. She worked at the library for almost 30 years and she loved the archives/Hollins history. We rang the bells for her on campus last week, and we hope to have a remembrance service for her in the chapel this May.
- Pandemic effect on library operations.
  - How has your experience been with the library this semester?
    - Two students said they have been using the library as resource, rather than a space this year (want to keep the number of people in the building down). One of those students mentioned they're using mostly online resources, feels like there are more online resources now.
    - Another student said they've been in/out of the library a lot, and are still checking out books! Specifically, they said it's been extremely comforting to be able to go in and look around, wander the stacks a bit (there's nowhere else they can do that!), and that they can checkout books. They really appreciate being back on campus and getting to use ILL (turnaround time has been about a week).
    - Two other students mentioned appreciating the space specific: one for the quiet study rooms, and another because they can spread out all their work on a large table.
  - This semester we created directional signage throughout the library. How is that going?
    - One person noticed that most people in their film class are using the side staircase to go up/out (since it's near the exit).
    - Umbrella stand – based on the group's suggestion, we've moved it just inside the entrance, so that people don't have to return to the foyer to retrieve them.

### III. Anti-racism

Since 2018, library staff members have created at least one personal equity and diversity goal. This summer, the library staff decided to create specific anti-racism goals for the entire library.

- Statement released in June 2020 and additional information on our website: <https://library.hollins.edu/antiracism/>
- Examples of the work we're doing:
  - Collections: ordering more zines by BIPOC people this summer, purchasing items from a black-owned book store (hoping to start that this year), The Anti-Racist Bookshelf, and to buy unlimited access e-books whenever possible for materials related to racism/anti-racism
  - We are also meeting with student groups to discuss how the library can be a welcoming place for everyone.
- Suggestions:
  - Market this more on social media so that people know what's going on.
  - Book fundraiser (perhaps partner with STAR City Reads) – Claire is interested in helping with this.
  - Partner with BSA: share goals and partner with them
  - Also, fine free: is this a possibility for Roanoke County Schools? Luke knows the director of the Roanoke County and said he would ask.

### IV. Student Suggestions

- Can we put something else in the elevator? It looks a little dreary without anything in there right now. Maryke: yes, we will!