Hollins University

Hollins Digital Commons

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LSAB Minutes February 2016

Maryke Barber

Rebecca L. Seipp

Minutes for the Library Student Advisory Board - February 25, 2016

Present: Rania Asif, Lilly Potter, Madison Correiro, Margie Heath, Rebecca Seipp, Maryke Barber.

Undergraduate Research Awards Judging: We're looking for 1-2 students interested in joining the panel of judges who determine the winners of the library's Undergraduate Research Awards. The panel consists of up to two students, two librarians, two members of the faculty, and Brent Stevens, director of the Writing Center. Judges read all of the entries, which range from shorter papers and presentations to full theses. Usually we receive approximately 15 entries each year. The entries judges will meet twice, to discuss the evaluation criteria and make a final decision.

Interested? Let Rebecca know, seipprl@hollins.edu .

Web Usability Study – a message from James Miller, our IT/Sciences Librarian:

> Interested in participating in a research study and earning a $10 gift card for the Hollins Bookshop OR three free drink gift vouchers for the Greenberry's Café in the Library?

> The Library wants to know how you use our website so we can make improvements. You'll be asked to do common tasks on the website and think out loud as you go. Don't worry, this is a test of the website and not a test of you, so you can do no wrong.

> We will use the results of the study to identify and correct problems in the website's design. By participating in this study you will be contributing to improving a resource that you and your peers regularly use. Testing should last a maximum of 30 minutes; we'll work with you to find a time convenient to your schedule.

> *How does it work? Your results will be analyzed by 3 library staff members (Maryke, Rebecca, & James). We will combine the results of other participants and identify parts of the website that can be improved. Based on the results we will then make changes to the library website to improve the ease of use. If you are interested in learning what changes we make, you can request that I send you an email with a list of changes that resulted from this study.*

> Contact James Miller, millerjc@hollins.edu to schedule a time/date.

Library Update – we haven't seen you since November, and we've been really busy! Here is some news about what we've been up to:

- Library Survey : it only happens once every five years, and we need your feedback! The survey is still open: take it now.
- Fine free: the library will be moving ahead to extend due dates on books, and eliminate late (AKA overdue) fines on all items except for reserves. We have the OK from the Hollins administration, now it takes a while to coordinate our joint policies with Roanoke College. We also have to do some work to implement the changes in our system. Look for this to be ready when you return next Fall!
- ILS Search: almost everything you use in the library is managed behind the scenes by library management software – and we are shopping for a new system. The process involves almost all of our staff, and our colleagues at RC. We are doing lots of research! Hopefully it will all results in new and better software by 2017.

- Weeding: several of the librarians are withdrawing books from their subject areas, to make room for new materials. This is a routine and necessary job in keeping our library up-to-date. Books are withdrawn when they:
    - Contain information that is out of date (example: 1970s book about computers)
    - Have been superseded by a new edition
    - No longer fit the current Hollins curriculum.

  Withdrawn materials are sent to Better World Books for resale or recycling. BWB are a wonderful business; they donate part of their profits to fund nonprofit literacy organizations around the world.

Some good suggestions were made about how to get students to sign up for text messages, should our new library software allow us to send text messages about borrowed books coming due, requested books coming in from RC, etc.: get students to sign up during orientation, and instruction sessions.

Inclusivity – the campus climate survey results are in, and they are leading to additional discussions around campus about working to make Hollins a more welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone. The library should be a part of these conversations. We can all ask ourselves: "what would an inclusive library look like? What sort of things would an inclusive library do?"

The discussion included ideas about how to highlight diverse resources in the library's collections, for example materials produced by authors whose voices are underrepresented by current "traditional" publishers. Or materials related to all of the various cultures represented among our students. Student groups could be invited to choose materials to exhibit, and/or to comment on exhibits.

From Maryke: if you have any further ideas about this, or if you have other suggestions about how the library can support inclusivity for our community, please let us know.

Series books in the bestsellers – the bestseller collection on the first floor doesn't always have earlier volumes from series books. This is an unfortunate aspect of our bestseller collection, which is temporary (the books are rented.) Older books are sent back; hence the lack of earlier volumes. ILL to the rescue! Please feel free to use ILL to request the earlier volumes. It is OK to use ILL for both your research, and your fun reading needs.