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Hollins Digital Commons

WRL: Library Student Advisory Board Minutes

Wyndham Robertson Library

10-2014

LSAB Minutes October 2014

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Minutes for the Library Student Advisory Committee

October 21, 2014

Present: Maggie, Mikaela, Hannah, Erin, Tena, Aubrey, Rebecca, Maryke.

Food and drinks: what would you like?

We took a poll of what people would like to eat and drink at committee meetings. Suggestions included lemonade, Pepsi, Sprite, water, sparkling water; chicken and broccoli, subway sandwich platter, vegetarian sushi and equally strong votes for and against Mexican food (hmmm....)

When should we have write-ins?

When is the best time to have write-ins for NaNoWriMo, for thesis writers and for the first-year students? You suggested:

- NaNoWriMo: a mid-month write-in would be nice, to encourage people to make it to the midway point. It should be advertised to the English department via Lisa Radcliff, but also to the entire HU population, as there are plenty of writers to be found in other departments.
- J-Term: when asked whether we could do write-ins for thesis writers, Rebecca mentioned that we will be doing one or more write-ins during J-term, and last year those were well attended by seniors who stayed on campus to get work done.
- FYS: looking at project deadlines, you suggested one in early November, and another evening at the end of the month.

Testing the app! Everybody downloaded the **Hollins University Library** app, and played with it to test its functionality. It worked well for most people, and the overall consensus was pleasant surprise that the library has a useful new tech thing to play with 😊

A few things of note:

- Journal access! JSTOR was proclaimed quite good via the app. Ebsco not too shabby either.
- Can “Library Locator” be changed to something more obvious? “Library location & Hours”? We will ask.
- FAQ – Under the “Ask Us” category is the library’s searchable FAQ database. There are all sorts of handy answers in here (and it’s also available from our regular home page). The interface seemed crowded on some phones, we’ll ask James to take a look and see if it can be more mobile-friendly.
- The catalog search works well, it even updates the search results as you type. Several of you mentioned it looks like there are two separate search boxes. We will see whether this can be adjusted.
- The hours look a little funky – the web site calendar is already on our list to see whether we can find something that works better.
- Renewing materials is easy via the app.
- Thank you for your mad testing skillz!

Blue Ridge Literacy needs volunteers

Blue Ridge Literacy (<http://www.blueridgeliteracy.org/>) is our local literacy tutoring organization. With a small but mighty staff they fulfill the critical function of helping people who need to learn to read, whether they are American-born who are not able to read as well as they wish, or refugees and immigrants who have recently come to the U.S. Volunteer opportunities include regular tutoring (an eight-week commitment to meet weekly), drop-in sessions (flexible); there are also non-tutoring opportunities such as helping make the

newsletter, helping with events, table-sitting for BRL. BRL also offers internships in administration, education, and social media.

Literacy volunteering is a really rewarding way to help people; you also benefit by learning a lot about the lives of those you teach and meet via BRL. Give it a try! If you're interested, or if you know a group on campus who might want to help out as a project, let Rebecca know (seipprl@hollins.edu) and she will put you in touch with BRL's volunteer coordinator – who is also a Hollins graduate. Just sayin'....

Other business

Many of you miss the accelerated reader program, in which you get points for reading books. Does it exist in college? Hmm....we don't think whether anyone has ever tried to implement accelerated reading for college students. We may have some trouble assigning points to the literature collection, which is most of the second floor....

Student Book Club – is there one at Hollins? We don't know of one, but are definitely interested in providing logistical support if students want to organize it. Students who are interested, talk to Mikaela Murphy. More news on this later!