

Hollins University

## Hollins Digital Commons

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WRL: Library Student Advisory Board Minutes

Wyndham Robertson Library

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2021

### LSAB Minutes April 2021

Maryke Barber

Rebecca L. Seipp

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Present: Maryke, Rebecca, Mairwen, Elizabeth, Nabila

- I. **Discussion of library closing procedures .**
  - a. How do you feel about the light flickering?
    - i. Makes sense because of that happens at other places – helps with hearing impaired. Also helps to have someone go around for visually impaired.
    - ii. When a person goes around they feel pressure to leave – not that student employees are saying the need to leave, but students doing homework in the library feel like they're holding someone.
    - iii. One person mentioned that they hadn't noticed the lights flickering, but always noticed when a student goes around.
  - b. Have you ever felt pushed out of the library at closing?
    - i. Yes, working in the basement with a group and they felt like the student was trying to get them to leave at 11:30 because they didn't want to go back down for the next round.
    - ii. Yes, but thinks it's unintentional.
    - iii. Never felt pushed out, however have worked retail and is really aware of that. Think it depends on how people work – they may unintentionally feel pushed out.
  - c. Do you have suggestions for improvement with our closing procedures?
    - i. One person asked about a PA system, which we're looking into. At 30 mins prior to closing: let people know when the lights will flicker.
    - ii. Process as it is now is good – feels like these two different ways covers everyone (helps visually impaired and hearing impaired people). Perhaps we can inform students about our closing procedures? Written guide about how we close the library.
    - iii. People coming in later – maybe have front let people know about closing procedures. However, that will miss people who don't go by the desk.
      1. Maybe put on a table tent?
      2. Or in elevator? Since it's a late-night issue.
- II. **Library hours during finals:** The library will have limited extended hours during finals this semester. We will be open from 8 am – midnight Wednesday through Friday, and 10 am – midnight Saturday and Sunday. What do you think about those hours?
  - a. Think that covers a big group of times that people are working. People are planning to spend more time in the library during finals than they have the rest of the semester.
  - b. 10 am seems like a good time to start. Have seen people in there at 2 am before.
  - c. One person: feels like people are using the library less, in their circle a lot of people have found alternate study locations. (would prefer to study in a place where they're not required to wear a mask)
  - d. Seems like a lot of professors have chosen to give papers instead of exams.

- e. Sidenote: calendar for next year is live! Fall break is included. Also: back to normal housing exemptions.
- f. Advertising: Announce at Senate. Can send to the VP of senate (Vanity Hernandez) to announce hours.

**III. Upcoming events:**

- a. Tags for Equity 4/14, 6 pm! This is co-hosted by the library and SAGA. This event is to tag LGBTQIA+ literature in OneSearch.
- b. Beanstalk:
  - i. Book giveaway: 4/15, Moody Plaza during lunch
  - ii. Reading, 4/22, 7:30 pm
  - iii. Workshop, 4/23, 2:00 pm
  - iv. My Grandfather was a Nazi Scientist (Amy gerber-Stroh) documentary 4/23, 7:30 pm

**IV. Orientation Open House** - On August 31<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday afternoon (2-hour window) – Library, Career Center, International Studies, and Museum will all be having an open house! They're going to create a passport, if you go to all 4 locations you'll be entered to win a big prize. Will also include giveaways and food.

b. Suggestions from students: can it be more of a party? Music playing, to make it more of a laid-back vibe. Have staff available to chat. Maryke: will invite LSAB people to join as greeter.

**V. Staff meetings with student groups** - All year the library has been meeting with student groups, and decided this year we would focus on underrepresented groups as part of our anti-racist action initiatives. We focused on these questions:

- Is the library a place, or a resource, that you use? How? Could the library be better at being either?
- Do you think the library is a welcoming and relevant place for BIPOC people, LGBTQIA+ people, and other historically underrepresented populations?
- Can you find things in the library? Physically, online? When you're lost, what would help?
- Are there services or spaces that you wish existed on campus, but they don't? What would they look like if they did?
- What can we do for you?

Because of the work involved we won't contact every group every semester, but we will rotate through. Some of the things we learn: groups use the library's movie collection for movie nights, we've learned that some people are having difficulty finding things so we revised the signs with more info and included a QR code for a video. We learned that our Muslim students were concerned about the location of our Qu'ran, so we moved it. Also the tagging event was created after meeting with SAGA. Overall, we're hoping for a better connection with students and to make sure the library reflects and works for students.