

Library Council Luncheon Meeting
Friday, March 22, 2013
Minutes

Attendees: Bob Korstad, Bob Byrd, Ann Elsner, Daniel Schmidt, Molly Tamarkin, Lynne O'Brien, Peter Haff, Lisa Huettel, Neil McWilliam, Len White, Daniel Griffin, Victoria Szabo, Anna Gassman-Pines, Beth Doyle, Mea Warren, Christina Gibson-Davis; Paula McClain, speaker; Lynne Grossman, recorder

1. Announcements/Introductions

- Current art exhibits: MFA student exhibit at the Power Plant tonight at 5 pm; reception for Molly's uncle Ronald Reis's photographs in Perkins at 6 pm; Visualizing Venice exhibit on Monday in Smith Warehouse.

2. Services to Graduate Students: Paula McClain

- Our GPSC representative Daniel Griffin said graduate students in the hard sciences need on-line resources and access to journals, as well as meeting space in the Library. Humanities students are happy with the Library services, particularly the great interlibrary loan group that shores up any collections we are lacking. Since they do not have their own space anywhere on campus, carrels are important for a place to do their research and get work done. There are 178 carrels in Perkins/Bostock with a waiting list of 100 students. To reduce the wait time for a carrel, the Libraries are rewriting our agreements about the use of carrels, as well as starting a second waiting list for grad students and faculty. We have also added additional lockers and are exploring opportunities for space to be used as a graduate student lounge. There are 30 carrels used by faculty, some of whom are emeritus and have no office on campus. It was suggested there be a graduate co-worker space, perhaps with a small membership fee. Paula said the professional schools have far more money and resources than the Graduate School, and asked if the Library prioritizes between the two groups? Bob responded that Law, Medicine, Business and Divinity students will not be eligible for a carrel unless they have joint appointments.
- Although Duke focuses on undergraduates, we would not be able to attract them had it not been for graduate faculty who make this a top-flight institution. We need to be more deliberative in thinking about graduate students. For instance, they go to Homecoming but there is no place for them because no one thinks about them. The graduate and professional students total is greater than undergraduates – 6700 vs. 6000. Perhaps one outcome of integrating grad students more into the life of Duke would be an increase in their donations to the annual fund and their department after graduation.

3. Research Commons Update: Bob Byrd

- At our visioning workshop last August, we discussed types of spaces and services needed to support research in Libraries. Then, we engaged Shepley Bulfinch architects to create a concept design. After much consideration, we recommended using first floor Bostock because of its openness of space, natural light, high ceilings, and easy access. The Research Commons would include staff support space, open work areas, social and research spaces. To determine the design layout, we examined images on other campuses from open work areas to cubicles where people could cluster around a project working together. As you enter our proposed space, there is a check-in area with staff support work areas, project rooms, defined closed work stations, and training rooms. There is open space with work areas for groups to gather around a flat screen, work tables and white boards. Project rooms, which could be shared. could be used for a Bass Connections project group, FHI project, or other defined research projects assigned for a semester or a year.
- The next phase of planning includes a schematic to define more detail and fundraising. We are lining up meetings with potential supporters as part of the Capital Campaign. We have a concept and location, and we would like your input as to how you would see this working and what would appeal to you. There is a possibility of serving wine or beer in the late afternoon or early evening. Staff housed here would be related to Data/GIS and Digital Scholarship. Other subject librarians would be located in the Research Commons to interact with people working on a project activity. The entry check-in desk would help limit the space use to research and defined projects. The lounge meeting space should be located near the patio so it is not viewable from the outside. To create a bar or club atmosphere, tables for laptops should be substituted for desks. The Research Commons will have a 24-hour profile with signage and staff presence directing users to evening study areas.

4. Other Business

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Grossman