

Library Council
November 11, 2014
Minutes

Attendees: Deborah Jakubs, Brittany Davis, Michelle Connolly, Ann Elsner, Bob Byrd, Naomi Nelson, Tom Hadzor, Rick Hoyle, Gil Merkx, Charlie Piot, Christina Gibson-Davis, Jackie Wachholz, Bob Behringer, Kim Steinle, Lisa Huettel, Tom Witeliski, Jocelyn Olcott, Peter Haff, Hannah Rogers, Kavita Jain, Ray Li, Neil McWilliam, Len White, Daniel Schmitt; Guests: Joel Herndon and Brittany Wofford; Lynne Grossman, Recorder

1. Announcements/Introductions
2. Review of the Library Advisory Board Meeting (November 7-8): Deborah Jakubs and Tom Hadzor
 - On Thursday evening and Friday morning, President Brodhead and David Rubenstein gave campaign updates to nearly 400 Campaign Delegates and University Board members from across the campus. Also featured was “The Student Experience at Duke” presented on four stages. There were two deep dives: financial aid at Duke and building a culture of philanthropy, where discussions centered on millennials, women and African American alums at Duke.
 - At the Library Advisory Board luncheon, Provost Sally Kornbluth gave a campus update. There was a session about MOOCs and on-line education, describing the reach of those classes; pro’s and con’s; how we compare to other universities; and pitfalls. Friday’s final presentation was the importance of digital storage for libraries and universities, their challenges and how their needs differ from corporations. Deborah updated the Board on the state of the Libraries; they saw a film about the role of the archivist; and had committee reports on nominating, marketing/messages, fundraising. We are at \$42.7million towards our \$45 million goal. Then we had a tour of The Edge with some students who were most enthusiastic and delighted with the space. We meet again in April.
3. Tour of The Edge: The Ruppert Commons for Research + Technology + Collaboration: Brittany Wofford (Coordinator for The Edge and Interim Librarian for Sociology and Cultural Anthropology) and Joel Herndon (Head, Brandaleone Data and Visualization Lab)
 - Bob said the first floor of Bostock was totally redesigned to bring together services and library staff’s expertise to meet the needs of researchers, students and faculty who are especially engaged in interdisciplinary research. Brittany Wofford’s position is a new one, where she will be hiring and supervising the student assistants, overseeing the programs and logistics, and coordinating activities. Joel’s department of Data and Visualization will be based in The Edge, as will a digital studio.

4. Follow-up Discussion:

- How does the space meet or differ from your expectations? It is neat to see it translated from the blue prints and it is so much bigger than I imagined. Room numbers are labeled “Bostock” rather than The Edge because they are sequenced for all the floors; however, some of the donor signage will signify it as The Edge, as will indicators on the glass walls. The students were impressed by the amount of space and the increase of a hands-on learning approach at Duke, with many group projects. They are excited for more group project meeting space, especially for Bass Connections. An announcement will be made about The Edge and its great central location, in a Student Government meeting. There will be an open house on the afternoon of January 14. Metrics for evaluating how the space is used will be provided by User Experience, who will examine the data trail, volume and nature of the projects. Staff members will take pictures of the project rooms during the day to get a sense of the traffic flow and what researchers are doing. There are many security cameras in the space and several spaces will have card reader access for security.
- Why might you or your students use the space and services of The Edge? The entire space is for research use. One of the biggest challenges will be students who want to just camp out, although everyone is doing some kind of research. We are still trying to determine who is a “legitimate” user of The Edge. We would like to see it used for interdisciplinary team-based activities and may have to determine the operational means to track this. The Edge will be publicized as complementary to other library spaces, unique in its approach. While it may be difficult to communicate that without policing the space, people will see team activity going on. There will be designated space for project rooms for the duration of their project, 24/7 – they commit to giving training and help other groups. We have sharable rooms for those who need it for a set number of hours on certain days of the week. There will also be grabbable spaces on the reservation system which can be reserved three weeks in advance, though not for the entire semester. Some but not all projects will have a faculty lead. Proposals are being vetted by The Edge core team: John Pormann, Bob Byrd, Tim McGeary, Brittany Wofford, and Joel Herndon. There is potential to host conferences during the off season. Our Director of Communication is considering how to get the word out to faculty; perhaps invite representatives to an open house, showcase end projects, produce a PR video highlighting team projects.
- Are there particular kinds of support or partnerships that you or your colleagues need from The Edge? Seminars at the end of semester by project leaders.

5. Other Business

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Grossman, Recorder