SLAC Meeting – September 28, 2016

Introductions

Welcome

- Goals for the committee and “house rules” (see page on library website: https://library.carleton.ca/about/student-library-advisory-committee )
- Meetings
  - Alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Communication
  - Meeting notes posted on the library website after committee approves

Planning activity

- Student members wrote on post-its their answers to “How can we make the library better?”
- Answers were grouped by theme
- Suggestions from the library were presented
- Student members put a checkmark beside ideas that really resonated with them
- The following themes received the most checkmarks:
  - Make content on the website more clear, concise, and easy to find
  - Food 4 Fines (more frequent)
  - Hours (extend)
  - Furniture / group study rooms
  - Food in the library

Next steps

The group discussion how best to address these topics at upcoming meetings:

- Website content: discuss with chair of library’s Web Committee
- Food 4 Fines, Food in the library: bring in Head of Access Services to discuss
- Hours: Ask library management how best to proceed
- Furniture / group study rooms: discuss in group to refine ideas

Wrap-up

- Co-chairs will organize a Doodle poll for November meeting time
Appendix

How can we make the library better? (Student member suggestions)

- Website is confusing as to which fiction books are available. It would be helpful if the material was more segregated
- Rearrange the shelves/label them with related subjects
- Treatment of sensitive materials in the library (triggers?)
- Make the “book distribution map” more visible (I know it is here on the website somewhere)
- The library could host study sessions to encourage study at the library
- Allow food
- Allow the consumption of a variety of foods
- Another coffee shop
- Better promotion of services! Sent out emails to all students! Don’t just let them find stuff.
- Entertaining DVDs
- Free printing (up to a certain amount)
- Big events on campus – feature in library (tie in to resources)
- Access up to date newspapers / magazines / journals. Not just academic ones! I.e. The Economist / Financial Times without 1 month (depending on cost lol) delay.
- Add more textbooks
- I’d like to see more seminars for more classes. I noticed for Econ at least, they only advertised it for 4th year students
- Open longer, even if just on a few floors
- Open earlier on the weekend (e.g. 9:00 instead of 10:00 am)
- Extend library hours, especially on weekends
- Sometimes longer hours!
- Longer hours
- Food 4 Fines – more often!
- Food for Fines twice a year
- Regular foot patrol on silent floors?
- How to keep current with books? New editions, new lit, etc.
- Set up a “learning center” (in company with the research desk) Help people to learn a new subject by themselves
- Sanitary wipes make available at computers. (keyboards are gross)
- Easier to use the site and library research desk
- Ladders (to reach shelves)
- Need more study tables in Discovery Centre, especially at exam time (for group study)
- More group work spaces
- Quiet rooms (individual)
- 1st floor study room, quiet study rooms
- Increase awareness of how to book study rooms & the like
- Reduce construction noise during important times of year, even in summer
- More service points in the library (to reduce line-ups)
- New bathrooms @ CU – are they in the library?
- Pet therapy, art therapy @ the library
Library suggestions for the committee

- New service point at library entrance; expectations, what to call it [we will do this one for sure]
- Online videos created by the library; expectations, improvements
- Do you feel well-served by the library space?
- Problems/frustrations with Ares/course reserves
- Improving content on library website (more clear, concise and easy to find)
- Integrating government documents on 1st floor with rest of collection (by subject, not by govt agency)