SLAC Meeting – September 25, 2019

Introductions
- Everyone introduced themselves and said what their favourite thing is about the library
  - Staff
  - Books
  - Views!
  - Circular staircase
  - The Archives

Welcome
- Goals for the committee and “house rules”
  (from library website: https://library.carleton.ca/about/student-library-advisory-committee)
- Communication
  - Meeting notes posted on the library website after committee approves. Names not included.
- Meetings
  - Will choose times for both Fall Term meetings by doodle poll

Planning activity
- Student members wrote on post-its their ideas for how to make the library better
- Suggestions are listed in Appendix
- Answers were grouped by theme
- Student members put a checkmark beside ideas that resonated with them
- The following themes will be discussed further this year (we grouped them based on the guest we can have coming to discuss these issues):
  - building / seating / lighting / signage / etc.
  - reserves / lending
  - communications
  - resource centres / room bookings / collections / orientation
  - more opportunities for learning about the library / services / collections
  - wifi / computers / website

Wrap up
- Meeting notes will be sent out by October 2
- Co-chairs will organize a Doodle poll for the next two meetings, the weeks of October 14 or the week of October 28, and the week of November 25
Appendix

Student member suggestions of how to make the library better

• Lend out chrome books
• Making technology available and accessible to students x2
• Making best use of technology
• Better listings of student events x2
• How to access thousands of books kept in non-MacOdrum school libraries (resource centres)
• Formatting of overdue/due emails hard to read x3
• Increase of availability of room reservations for students vs programs (who may not use them but retain bookings) x2
• Make rental of rooms easier x3
• More frequent library tours (especially for 1st years) x4
• Better advertising of events that are of interest to students x6
• More publicity about events happening at the library
• As a first year undergrad student, I was pretty confused about the different sections and categories of books and didn’t know where to find what I was looking for. Suggestion: making up floor wise boards that list the categories, genre, etc. right outside elevators and stairs. That would make a clear distinction and help someone who’s afraid to ask around! x3
• Improve knowledge of on-line search process x2
• On-line search may find two results - then find a whole shelf full in stacks
• less intimidating / better maps - larger, more detailed x5
• frosh orientation - actually orient them within the library - where their area of focus will be
• signage - call #s on floors / subject, room signage, direction, permanent solution - not pieces of paper that keep falling off
• signage - different colours or shades of colours - understands they are Carleton colours, but makes it hard to see the ones you’re looking for
• ‘you are here’ interactive map within building
• rent out museum passes like OPL / other activities
• librarian visits to first year classes to speak about resources
• providing life skill workshops for graduate students
• make every mandatory/required textbook available at the library x2
• more returns on summons
• next day or same day delivery of books from storage
• more opportunities for students to learn how to use the library online x2
• up-to-date collection of books and periodicals
• format summons to have pages rather than a long list
• more info about services offered for first year undergrads x3
• more digitized and online content x2
• improve the website especially the hold reserve function x2
• more copies of books that regularly go on reserve
• more Canadian/Indigenous local content and events
• more opportunities for student involvement and expression
• more feminist and post colonial literature, especially ebooks with an arrow!
• expand game lab walk-ins to all week days if the room is empty
• stop reduction of physical collection. digitization doesn’t work for everyone. x3
• subscribing to specific journals through library account
• increase book having period, unless someone wants it
- more rotation of books from storage
- why smoking allowed on campus? dedicated security for library building at Ottawa U
- fines for smoking outside front entrance x7
- copy the u of o modular chair setup
- new, more and better seating on quiet study floors x3
- more charging stations x2
- lights that don’t buzz or hum x3
- ball chairs x2
- more couches
- needs more water bottle filling stations x6
- charging stations on more floors x2
- less air conditioning x3
- more recycling bins x2
- more sit-stand/standing desks
- individual dark + quiet rooms x2
- water fountains x5
- more space, more silence, stop people from smoking outside x6
- improve the wi-fi situation x3
- improved wifi - past 2 weeks on first floor (fl 2) wifi hasn’t been strong enough for online lecture videos x2
- open fire-escape near Southam as an extra entrance (and maybe make it a ramp for better access) it is covered by the roof and would help solve the snow issue in the quad x2
- better lighting (yellow)
- more signs warning people in group rooms on 3rd and 5th floor that they must be quiet x2
- where did the fifth floor copiers go???
- collaboration!
- stop the lights from making that hum
- a couple more tables on ground floor
- newer computers/keyboards
- more seating!
- stack search computer on every floor
- a second cafe on different floor
- more seating for wheelchairs, especially power chairs
- girls bathroom on 4th floor - door squeaks really bad when closes