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Library Advisory Board

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MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
March 19, 2014

Dr. Melissa Caldwell, chair of the Library Advisory Board, convened the meeting at 4:05 p.m. in Witters Conference Room 4440.

Present: David Boggs, Melissa Caldwell, Chad Carlson, Jason Hamilton, Darren Hendrickson, Dan Hickman, Teri Hunt, Patrick Lach, Dean Allen Lanham, Robert Martinez

Excused (including Alternates): Ryan Hendrickson, Danelle Larson, Simon Lee, James Ochwa-Echel, Jenny Sipes and Jay Shinde

I. Welcome and Comments

Welcome:

Dr. Caldwell welcomed the board members to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Jason Hamilton, and seconded by Dr. David Boggs, to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2014, meeting. The motion carried.

II. Communications

Communications regarding their inability to attend today's meeting were received from: Ryan Hendrickson, James Ochwa-Echel and Jenny Sipes.

III. Old Business:

Dr. Caldwell asked if the posters showing last year's winners of the Booth Library Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity had been created and distributed as promotional material. Dean Lanham indicated that posters and fliers were made and distributed in the MLK Union, dining services, the library's website and Facebook and Twitter.

IV. New Business

Dr. Caldwell noted she had not received any topics for discussion under new business.

Dean's Report

I. Welcome

2014 Finalist for the National Medal for Museum and Library Services: Dean Lanham proudly announced that Booth Library has been named a finalist for the prestigious National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Yesterday was Booth Library's assigned day for social media, and Beth Heldebrandt did an excellent job of garnering support for our nomination. The Facebook social media day is not linked to the naming of the recipients. The award winners will be chosen from the top 30 finalists, 15 libraries and 15 museums. Only five from each category will be chosen. We are the only academic library in contention for the award, but not the only library in Illinois. Chicago Public Library is a finalist, as well.

Back2Books Award: Booth Library has also been selected to receive a \$5,000 award from the Illinois State Library in support of the 1960s exhibit being developed by the library for fall 2014. Information will be forthcoming in the *University Newsletter* announcing the exhibit and providing a contact person for faculty interested in participating or having students participate.

Muslim Journeys: The programming for the *Let's Talk About It: Muslim Journeys* has been well received, with more than 100 people in attendance for the opening event and an average of 30 people participating in every program. There were five books for the reading/discussion series and some participants have read all five books. The discussions have not solely centered on the Muslim religion, but other faiths, as well. Tonight's program is a student panel from Mr. Mann's class that studied the history of Islam this semester. The next program will be held on April 1, 2014, in the Newman Center. Mr. Daniel Otto, department of philosophy, will moderate an interfaith panel. Dr. Jay Shinde, library advisory board member, is one of the panelists for this discussion. The next program is a book discussion of "The Art of Hajj," led by Brian Mann, at 6 p.m. March 26 in the Witters Conference Room 4440.

Beverly Cruse Recipient of Superior Performance: Bev Cruse, library photographer, was selected to receive a Superior Performance Award. The pilot program is in its second year of three, created to recognize outstanding service for non-negotiated staff at Eastern. Bev is well known in Booth Library and across campus for her dedicated service, and is certainly deserving of this honor. An Awards Ceremony will be held in April, when the 10 recipients will be recognized.

II. Public Service Issues

National Library Week, April 13-19, 2014: Activities are being planned at Booth Library for celebrating National Library Week being held April 13-19, 2014. The Fourth Annual Edible Book Festival will be held on Monday, April 14. Wednesday, April 16 the library will hold its annual spring book sale, weather permitting. Wednesday, immediately following the final Library Advisory Board meeting, will be the reception to honor this year's recipients of library's Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity. On Thursday, Booth will celebrate the National Library Workers Appreciation Day with a reception.

III. Planning Issues

2014 Booth Library Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity: Booth Library received 10 entries for this year's awards. Beth Heldebrandt will e-mail the entries to the board members. There are three art entries that will be available for review in the library's administration office. The committee discussed the matrix for evaluating the entries and will come together on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 4 p.m. to decide on this year's awards.

Financial Opportunities for Library Services: Dean Lanham asked board members for any suggestions they might have as to ways Booth Library might find savings in the existing appropriated budget. Among the ways discussed were to stop or reduce the number of free copies given away in the Reference Department; however, the funds generated in the account that pays for the toner and paper is not appropriated funds. Leasing the library's exhibits to other libraries was also suggested. Decreasing hours the library is open would also mean reducing staff to be cost effective. Reduce the purchase of journals and books had been suggested, as well as combining domain resources with another department on campus. Opportunities for outside funding were suggested through grants, fundraisers, and selling some of the more lucrative books received as gifts through an online resource rather than for such a low price during the book sales. Dr. Martinez wondered if the selling of the books might be a good project for the entrepreneurship program in the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences or some other service-oriented organization. Another suggestion was to seek volunteers to work in order to reduce personnel costs; however, this would be illegal due to the civil service union contract, which does not permit the replacement of personnel with temporary or volunteer staff.

Planned Events and Major Exhibitions:

- Revolutionary Decade: Reflections on the 1960s, exhibit and speaker series is planned for fall 2014.
- The Cynthia Ann and Quanah Parker Story, exhibit and programs planned for spring 2015.
- Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War exhibit and speaker series, September 1 to October 15, 2015, ALA/U.S. Constitution Center.
- For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights, exhibit and event series, September 1 to October 20, 2016, NEH on the Road.

A motion was made by Dr. Patrick Lach and seconded by Dr. David Boggs to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Peggy Manley, Administrative Assistant

For Christine Derrickson, Recording Secretary