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Library Advisory Board

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MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Feb. 20, 2019

Bailey Young, vice chairman of the Library Advisory Board, convened the meeting at 4:05 p.m. in Witters Conference Room 4440.

Present: A. Desire Adom, David Boggs, Wutthigrai Boonsuk, Steve Brantley, Crystal Brown, Jon Coleman, Stefan Eckert, Angela Glaros, Godwin Gyimah, Zach Newell, Jennifer Stringfellow, Seth Yeakel and Bailey Young

Excused: Linda Ghent, Bonnie Laughlin-Schultz, Lee Patterson, Stu Sallehu, Sheila Simons, Jennifer Smith

I. Welcome and Comments

a. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Nov. 28, 2018, meeting were approved as amended. Boggs moved for approval; Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously with an abstention from Stringfellow.

II. Communications

Young announced that Linda Ghent wasn't feeling well and was unable to attend the meeting. Heldebrandt reported that she had heard from Simons, Laughlin-Schultz, Smith and Patterson regarding their inability to attend the meeting. Glaros will arrive late, following her class.

III. Old Business

a. Bylaw changes

Prior to the meeting, Ghent had distributed a draft of proposed changes to Section II. A. of the bylaws. These amendments reflect the change in membership due to the reorganization of academic colleges. The board will now comprise two faculty members from the Lumpkin College of Business and Technology, College of Education, and College of Health and Human Services. Four faculty members will represent the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, divided equally between arts/humanities and the sciences. Board members noted that several other bylaw changes are needed to reflect the new membership. All mentions of alternate members and three-year terms should be removed, as there will no longer be board alternates and each non-student member will serve a two-year term. Board members revised sections II. III., IV. and V. of the bylaws accordingly. The vote on bylaw revisions was tabled until the March meeting.

b. Library social event

Newell reported that he had met with Young, Heldebrandt and Ghent to plan a social event to welcome faculty into the library and get their feedback. It will be a social event with wine/beer and food at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, in the West Reading Room. The tentative title for the event is "Not MySpace, Your Space." The event also will debut the new Faculty Reading Room, which is being moved from the first floor to the third (main) floor in the former NUC Room off the West Reading Room. Newell suggested putting up a large note pad to allow faculty to post comments or vote on changes they would like to see in the library. Ideas also could be accepted for the new Faculty Reading Room and what this new space could include. Yeakel suggested that students should provide feedback on library changes, as well. Gyimah suggested that perhaps the faculty event could be combined with the Awards for Excellence reception to get students involved. Heldebrandt noted that the awards reception has already been scheduled, but it could be promoted more widely to encourage more student attendance. At the awards reception, award winners present their research in some fashion – visually, with a PowerPoint, etc. Each student explains his/her project. Boggs wondered if the student presentations could be livestreamed.

Heldebrandt noted that the number of award applicants is up. Eleven have submitted applications so far; and another nine have started the process. This is a higher response than usual, and she credited Yeakel for suggesting the application be added to the EIU Scholarships web page. Newell suggested having a separate event in the fall to get feedback from students.

IV. New Business

a. Dean's Report

Heldebrandt reported that the latest edition of the library's newsletter, Notebooth, has been distributed. All EIU faculty and staff should have received an email through the EIU CreateSend platform promoting Notebooth and other upcoming library activities. Faculty present said they had not received the email; Heldebrandt will check into the problem. She also noted that the library now has an Instagram account; all board members are encouraged to follow the library on Facebook, Twitter and/or Instagram.

Newell announced that a library strategic planning process will begin soon, and he may ask one or two members of LAB to participate in that process.

The library, along with FDIC, the Center for Humanities and others, submitted a Steelcase grant application for furniture for an active learning classroom in the new Student Development and Innovation Center space in the library. It's a very competitive, national grant; the announcement of grant recipients will be made in April. The grant application focused on collaborative learning and encouraging a faculty teaching community to hold classes in the new SDIC space. A grant submission also was made for ATAC funds to purchase technology and equipment for the SDIC space. That university committee continues to meet to make ATAC funding decisions.

Newell announced that the library has received its annual allotment of Redden Grant funds from the university, and library faculty are rethinking how that money might be spent beyond just purchasing books/materials. All fund allocations will be linked to student success.

Finally, Newell noted he is still awaiting more information about how ITS changes will affect the library. ThinClient computers will be purchased campuswide, but there are questions about whether these will be compatible with library databases, software, etc. ITS isn't sure yet how to proceed.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Beth Heldebrandt, recording secretary