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The George C. Gordon Library

2-3-2010

Student Advisory Committee Minutes C Term 2010

George C. Gordon Library

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Library Student Advisory Committee Minutes - February 3, 2010 Meeting

Present: Christine Drew, Tracey Leger-Hornby, Daniel J. Deciero, Lauren Ketschke, Jialing Lin, Siddharth Sudhir Meshram

Tracey gave an update on the Merged Information Services Organization Survey. The Gordon Library and WPI IT Departments have rolled out the MISO Survey this past week. Please encourage other students to take it, it's going to a random sample of WPI students. More info at www.misosurvey.org. It should take around 15 minutes. No incentives offered but the feedback will help us improve. The survey period ends Feb. 15, 2010.

Lauren shared some ideas and here's her follow-up:

- The Academic Digest had already been sent last night when we left our meeting, so unfortunately it did not make it out in this week's edition. It will however be included in next week's without question.
- A short blurb showing SGA's encouragement for students to take the survey will be in our SGA Corner in the student newspaper which will be distributed next Tuesday.
- At the Senate meeting, we will encourage all Senators and undergraduates in attendance to take the survey. This will also be reflected in the minutes which is read by an even larger group of undergraduates.

Tracey shared renovation plans and showed current images with plans for the Southside information commons. After classes end in May the right side of the main entrance level will close for renovation with a completion date of August 1st. Dan mentioned that students would like to maintain group spaces and power/data outlets are also desirable. If you have concerns about the layouts let Tracey know ASAP. Jialing mentioned her concerns about two desk, one called Information, the other Help Desk. Would students know which to go to? Tracey mentioned that there's an additional part of the plan which would improve lighting over the current information desk, but the cost is very high and it is not certain this will occur. For summer 2010 the plan is to: 1) move Help Desk and call center into the library 2) create café, 3) Create information commons area. Note: I will update the web site at http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Library/About/Events/renovation-pics.html with more current images from the Architects this week.

I requested feedback on why building usage statistics are skyrocketing but service points are experiencing lower demand, esp. reference. Lauren commented that "people don't know the resources", maybe we could offer workshops (lack of awareness of current offerings), for ID2050 Dan had to come for a research consultation which was valuable, but they initially did not want to come in. "People have to be required to come" and "one lecture is not enough." Siddharth mentioned for graduate classes GA/Department Heads recommend training, so this may be an approach we should take, by contacting them. Students turn to friends first and library as the last resort. Peer to peer may be the best way to get to information to grad students. Library staff should "try to get into classes" more. For new graduate students, let them know how to get to past theses and dissertations. Work through professors to get information to students.

2/8/2010 CMD