9-30-2010

Student Advisory Committee Minutes A Term 2010

George C. Gordon Library

Student Advisory Meeting -- September 30, 2010

Attending: Lauren Ketschke, Dan, Deciero, Meghan Pasquali

Marie DiRuzza, Mary Beth Harrity, Jessica Caron, Tracey Leger-Hornby

Renovations

The students are using the library more now than in the past, individually and in groups. The students really like the new table set-ups and think the tables are a good alternative to the tech suites. There were questions about the hours the café is open and a request to keep the café open longer. We discussed the means of communicating requests for the café hours and menu (feedback cards and email to Chartwells). The students were very enthusiastic about the ease of using the Helpdesk and did not think there was any confusion about which service point to use. They thought the signage was clear and it was easy to find what they need.

Library Hours

Students gave us feedback on the pilot program for the end of term 24 hour opening. They suggested adding the announcement to the library blog, to Facebook and sending an email message to student just before the pilot. They suggested a simple and direct subject line for the message to attract attention. Lauren agreed that the SGA would also send a message to students since the initiative was the result of an SGA subcommittee request last year. They will also post a notice in the Academic Digest. The students asked about opening the library a bit earlier to accommodate printing. The number of places open before classes to make printouts on campus is limited.

There was a short discussion about graduate schedules and the needs of graduate students during breaks. Meghan felt the students had many options for study and workspace on campus, including the library. Most graduate work is done in a lab or individually, not in small groups as in the case of most undergraduates. However, she was not sure about students at Gateway and some of the international students. Students raised concerns about quiet space for graduate students and bigger tables. The small individual carrels on the first floor are not large enough for books, papers, and laptops.

CAI survey

We discussed the upcoming CAI student survey and some possible topics for feedback. The students felt that it would be good to get more information on use of mobile devices and see if there is any unmet demand. The students also recommended using the MYWPI poll to get quick feedback from a large group of students. They thought a follow up on the 24-hour pilot would be helpful.

Other feedback

The students did not have other concerns about the library. They suggested we invite an international student to join the advisory committee as this population may have different needs, particularly regarding hours.