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Student Advisory Committee Minutes C Term 2011

George C. Gordon Library

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Student Advisory Committee

2/17/2011

Meghan Pasquali
Colyer Sigety
Mary Beth Harrity
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Don Richardson

Student Advisory Concerns About Library Hours

Students raised several questions about library hours and the use of the library

- Later hours – Could the library stay open later at the end of term?
- Could we extend hours?
- Need to let students know about space on ground floor to ease some of the crowding
 - Very big signs at the entrance might be noticed
 - Table top signs might be helpful
- Ideas – poll faculty when are they scheduling exams – match patterns of need
 - Library hours should reflect trends for usage

Don Richardson: Presentation on library software

Don Richardson, Associate Director of Technology and E-Resources gave a presentation on the upcoming changes in the library systems and requested feedback from the committee

- Overview of library system situation
 - Too many resources on the web page – may be confusing
 - Too many interfaces – hard to know what to do for an effective search
 - Many students resort to using Google if they can't find anything else
- Description of new type of software to help guide student searching – “Discovery”
 - Demonstration of typical search using new “Discovery” software (Dartmouth)
 - Evaluation summary document on the website
 - <http://www.wpi.edu/academics/Library/About/systemsevaluation.html>
 - Suggestions for methods of getting student feedback on the new discovery software
 - IQP/MQP research teams
 - Grad study groups
- Library Web Site Redesign
 - Library staff committee formed
 - Web Office supporting library efforts
 - Input from students needed to help focus the page and emphasize tools
 - Focus groups will be organized soon and committee agreed to participate