Student Library Advisory Council- February 10, 2016

Present: CUL: Jim Crocamo, Allison Morrow, Barbara Rockenbach, Carole Ann Fabian, Tara Das, Meredith (Francie Mrkich absent); Students: Vinay (ESC), Ravi (CCSC), Megan (EGSC), Sam (SoA), Carolyn (Burke), Steph (Social Work), Nolan (GSAS)

Notes

*The next SLAC meeting will be held on **April 12th at noon**. It will likely run longer than usual, perhaps to 90 minutes, as Strategic Directions will be discussed.*

1) **Water Filling Station update**- They are up and running in Butler, SEL, Avery, and Lehman- students and librarians are pleased!

2) **Food Policy**- The Libraries explored food policy suggestions from the October meeting. During the same time period, there have also been some faculty complaints about abuse of the food policies in 5th and 6th floor readings rooms. Ongoing conversations about this issue and about better labeling spaces will continue.

3) **SEL Stairs**- Installation of rubber treads will commence on Thursday and be completed over the weekend. The stairs should be much safer once the treads are in place. Access to upper floors in SEL will be available through the disability elevator during the installation process.

4) **Talk Zone**- Student feedback tells us that 'group study' resonates more with library users than Talk Zone so there will be some re-branding in the spring semester.

5) **Future of Density**- Ravi talked about some student developers thinking about the future of the Density app. Their hope is that the API (which is pretty self-sufficient) can be updated by Libraries' developers and merged with the Study Spaces Open Now feature to give students real-time information about when/where they can study in the various Columbia libraries. Allison Morrow also suggested featuring this data on the CUL homepage and on the LCD screens in different libraries (provided that NanoNation can support it).

6) **Strategic Directions**- Carole Ann provided an overview of the Libraries' Strategic Directions process (Zoom exercise, Elastic Thinking, core value statements) and discussed how we might involve SLAC/the larger student body. She referred students to the Strategic Directions webpage, http://library.columbia.edu/about/StrategicDirections.html, and asked that they offer feedback on the process/on the libraries in general. She also suggested that SLAC members invite other students to our April 12th meeting so we can engage a variety of student perspectives.

7) **Nolan**- there were two main concerns from GSAS students:

- How to apply for carrels in Butler and other libraries
- Low print quotas for graduate students who are teaching

Action items:

- Create an easily accessible listing all the rules and regulations for carrel applications for graduate students across libraries;
- Find out how academic departments can better support students who are printing for their teaching.

8) **Workshops and ideas**: Meredith asked the students if they knew about the range of workshops offered by the libraries and what topics/tools/resources they'd like to see being taught.

Action items:

- Send link to workshop calendar to SLAC members to circulate;
- Create flyers and post them in appropriate buildings/spaces;
- When possible, record workshops and make them available online to the Columbia community (this is already done sometimes for Columbia Video Network);
- Create a regularly updated list of contacts/offices who can share libraries' workshops/events with student and faculty groups;
- Better spotlight workshops on the library homepage (they are currently difficult to find)

9) **Student Questions**

- Megan asked how to recommend a tool of journal for purchase (email any SLAC librarians or use the Recommend an Item form, https://library.columbia.edu/find/request/recommend/form.html)
- Megan also mentioned that Engineering graduate students would like SEL to open earlier on weekends, based on information taken from the 2015 Quality of Life Survey (Jim will look into this)