

Attending: Lilly, Jordan, Mairwen, Nabila, Sarah, Brooke, Rebecca, Maryke, Heather, Mason, Karen.

I. Guest: meet Circ. Coordinator Karen Ryan.

Karen manages all of the collections in the library, everything from the books on the shelves (and in the annex), to the things you can check out at the desk (think: reserves, useful things like chargers & umbrellas). She is also the supervisor for 24 student employees who are the backbone of our Check Out Desk. Karen came to Hollins in 2013 after working in circulation departments in both public and academic libraries. Karen answered your questions:

- How many books are there in the library? Karen is working on a complete inventory of all of our books (with the help of our wonderful summer circulation employees). It's not completely finished, but her best guess is in the neighborhood of 150k books.
- How many books can you check out at once? 50! And if you need more, talk to Karen 😊
- Most under-used item items in the library? Karen thinks that's probably our maps.

II. Mindful exams:

For this semester's exam period, we'd like to turn the Hollins Room into a contemplative space; one where people can come and either meditate (or just be comfortable) on their own, or they can experience such things as guided meditation. Maryke will be contacting those who have expressed interest, for your help in making this happen/getting the word out on campus. Interested people so far include Sarah, Mairwen, Nabila, Kat, Faith, Leeandrea and Jessica. If you'd also like to help, email Maryke: [mbarber@hollins.edu](mailto:mbarber@hollins.edu)

III. Library Birthday Celebration in April – Rebecca

The library building will be turning 20 this spring, so we're throwing a birthday party for the library the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Rebecca met with the library staff earlier in the week about this and came up with a few ideas:

- We will be table-sitting in Moody that week to highlight a few library initiatives/programs, including: OER, going Fine-Free, the LSAB, the Undergraduate Research Awards, and our Zine collection.
- We also hope to have a public art project on the windows of the CLE, where students can color/doodle as they please during that week and leading into finals.
- Finally, we will have cake available to the campus on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>!

Of course, many in the group had ideas on how we can make all of this happen (thank you!):

- Table-sitting ideas: give away bookmarks, bring the prize wheel, have some type of library trivia, free coffee gift certificates, have a scavenger hunt (find this book...).
- Instagram contest: create and hashtag and share your favorite study spaces

- Cake: chocolate and vanilla, have alternate for gluten-free and vegan people
- Put prompts in the library guestbook to help give people ideas on what stories to share.

#### IV. Upcoming Bookmobiles – join us on Monday March 11 and Wednesday April 3.

- We love having students join us for bookmobiles! They are from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in Moody and you can come/go as your schedule allows. We will send an email reminder out about them!

#### V. Other Business?

- Do we have audiobooks? Since audiobooks aren't a format used in Hollins' education mission, and since the Roanoke Public Libraries have a great collection of audiobooks, we have made the choice not to purchase them. To get audiobooks from the public library (downloadable audiobooks, or books on CD) you can get a public library card at the [Hollins Branch of the RPL](#); all you need to do is show them your Hollins ID.
- Where is the artwork on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor from? Professor Schweitzer's j-term class! They studied renaissance art and materials, and then selected artworks to replicate.
  - Everyone agreed that they liked artwork in the library and Lilly suggested hanging more student artwork. If your class would like to exhibit artwork in the library, contact us (or ask your professor to get in touch with us).
- Can we laminate things in the library? We do not offer lamination, but you can do that at printing & mailing.
- The laptop cords are currently in-library use only, is there any chance we can change that to allow them to be taken out of the building? The laptop cords are intended to be supplementary, not a replacement for people's cords, but Sarah clarified that she was thinking more along the lines of "Oh, I have a class in Pleasants and I forgot my laptop cord – I can swing by the library and borrow it for 2 hours". Karen said we have not reviewed our use-policy for them since we purchased them – she and Maryke will discuss this idea and get back to the group!

#### VI. Contemplative Exercise – Rebecca

- Maryke and Rebecca are both part of the Contemplative Collective, a group of faculty and staff that want to bring contemplative practices to Hollins. Since we are asking for your help with creating a contemplative space during finals, we thought it would be nice to explore a contemplative practices during our meetings. These practices are completely optional. It's important to note that contemplative practices are found in many religious traditions. This is not the lens through which it is being approached by Maryke and Rebecca, but each person is invited to experience these exercises in a way that makes you feel comfortable.
- During the last 10 minutes of our meeting, Rebecca invited people who were interested to participate in a 5 minute body scan meditation. This exercise is designed to help you cultivate your concentration and focus on first-person reflection and attention to your body. Rebecca led the guided meditation. After the meditation, we discussed how it felt to participate in the practice and people shared their experiences with meditation.