

Present: Maryke, Alicia, Nabila, Elizabeth, Amy, Kyra, Brooke, Rebecca, Molis, Mairwen, Rakshya, and Rebecca

- I. **Welcome, everyone!** Since it's a new year, we had everyone introduce themselves and share something about their summer. We heard about books, jobs, trips, and more!
  
- II. **LSAB Refresher: who we are, what we've done.** Since it's a new year and we have new members, we thought that we should share some of what the group has done in the past. The list includes (but is not limited to):
  - Carrels that you can reserve
  - Blankets
  - A quiet floor (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, after 6 pm)
  - Write-Ins
  - The group participated in a usability study of our entrance, which led to updating all of our library signage
  - Tested new furniture options

This semester marks the 10 year anniversary of the LSAB, and this list is just a sampling of how this group has made the library a better place to work and a better space to be in. We're looking forward to another great year!
  
- III. **Updates**
  - Stress Relief Lounge: It was a great success, the room was visited more than 100 times during just 5 days of finals. Thank you for your help setting up and planning it!
  - New staff: Shawna Battle in ILL, Coleman Holth is now the Acquisitions and Copy Cataloging Coordinator.
  - Reporting back on a suggestion: Laptop cord lending outside of the building. *We get a request for this maybe once/year, and would rather not start a new service for such low demand. Example of new service based on demand: multiple demands for graphing calculators have resulted in the purchase of 2 for use this fall.*
  
- IV. **Staff Guest: Rebecca Seipp, new Assistant University Librarian.** The library re-organized over the summer and Rebecca became the Assistant University Librarian. She is still the research librarian for the humanities, but now she also oversees the newly created "Operations" department. This department handles getting books to our patrons, so everything from ordering and processing, to checking them out, to getting them through InterLibrary Loan (ILL).
  
- V. **Suggestions/ideas from the group.** The group was full of ideas in our first meeting – here's a rundown of what we discussed:
  - Soap: the soap in the library is different than everywhere else on campus and some people have an allergy to perfume. Can we change it? Rebecca will ask facilities and report back.
  - The Library of Things: Brooke talked about how she went to a library in a small community this summer that checked out cooking utensils and asked if this was

something we could do (dorm kitchens aren't well stocked). This brought up a discussion of a "Library of Things", which is essentially when a library has checkouts out a collection of items that are not traditionally associated with the library – our Library of Things includes: chargers, umbrellas, laptops, cords, headphones, and graphing calculators. Cooking utensils are probably not a good fit for us, just because we have some many other "Things" to keep up with and the wear and tear of kitchen utensils would be difficult for our student workers to manage.

- Rescue Dogs: another person mentioned the idea of partnering with a dog rescue organization to have dogs available to checkout for hikes, etc. This idea is really popular at universities and we actually already have therapy dogs come to campus near finals! There are a few different groups of campus that have done this in the past – when we hear of the group that's doing it this year, we'll let you know.
- Human Library: This is an event where you can check out people to learn more about someone who is different from you. It's a great idea and one that many other libraries have done. The group is interested in it, but it would require a lot of planning and coordination with other groups on campus. If you are interested in a Human Library program contact Maryke ([mbarber@hollins.edu](mailto:mbarber@hollins.edu)) who is going to looking into this possibility further.

VI. **Bookmobiles: join us Oct. 9 (Public Library Cards!) and Nov. 6 (Book Giveaway!).** Come peddle library books and DVDs with us sometime! Maryke and Rebecca do this once a month in Moody from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm and it's always a fun time. Our upcoming bookmobiles each have something extra: on October 2<sup>nd</sup> we will have people from the public library that can sign you up for a public library card (they have ebooks and audiobooks!). On November 6<sup>th</sup> we'll have a book giveaway to promote Balli Kaur Jaswal's Reading. If you'd like to join us, please email Rebecca or Maryke – and don't worry if you can't be there the entire time, you can stay for however long your schedule allows.

VII. **Brainstorming Exercise: library exhibit topics.** Finally, we spent a little time brainstorming book exhibit ideas with a partner – here's what the group came up with:

- Spooky October (not just typical horror)
- Mental health
- Crime
- Child psychology
- Black History Month – a celebration of African American culture
- World Building in Literature
- Spirituality
- Leadership
- International authors
- Contemporary poetry & spoken word

VIII. **Next meeting: please bring FYS assignment schedules to help us schedule a write-in.**