Virginia Commonwealth University
VCU Libraries Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 22, 2022, 2:00-3:00 pm, Zoom

Attending

Jean Bailey, Yunus Bidav, Matt Bogenschutz, Laurie Cathers, Jennie Cook, Ywone Edwards-Ingram, Frank Gulla, Catherine Ingrassia (*chair*), Inho "Richard" Jho, Pratyush Narayan, Chineme Onukwughara, Doug Pugh, Valerie Robnolt, Christy Tyndall, Dayanjan (Shanaka) Wijesinghe

Absent

Leila Brinegar, Eric Campbell, Rachel Cloutier

VCU Libraries Staff

Trudi Batiste (*recording secretary*), Kathy Bradshaw, Laura Gariepy, Jimmy Ghaphery, Irene Herold, Teresa L. Knott, Tammy Sugarman

Business

Introduction of members

At 2:03 pm, Chair Ingrassia opened the meeting and welcomed all members, both new and returning.

Review and approval of agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as presented.

Review and approval of minutes from April 2, 2021

The minutes from April 1, 2022 were approved as presented.

Poll for VCU Libraries Advisory Committee (VLAC) meeting format

The members of the VLAC were invited to participate in a poll to determine the format for future meetings of the VLAC. See poll results here.

Reports and Discussion

VCU Libraries Overview and Update

Dean Irene Herold reminded members of VCU Libraries' mission statement and the role of VLAC. It was also noted that the VLAC charge needs to be updated. A revised charge will be submitted to the committee for feedback.

Laura Gariepy (Associate Dean for Research and Learning) noted that library hours will be limited around Thanksgiving and during winter closure.

- Cabell library hours are 7:30 am - 2:30 am most days of the week, and Health Sciences Library (HSL) hours are 8:30 am to 9pm (M-Th). Full hours are available on the hours webpage. Extensive chat hours are available at both Cabell and HSL. Email: library@vcu.edu or askhsl@vcu.edu

The Workshop at Cabell provides hardware, software, spaces and expertise to help the VCU community produce creative work of all kinds. Hours are 10am - 10pm (M-F) and 12pm – 10pm (Su) Special Collections and Archives at both library locations are available by walk-in and appointment.

As part of our current evolution of library spaces, shelving has been replaced on the 1st and 3rd floors, gender inclusive restrooms are near completion, and some desktop computers will be reduced to allow for students' devices. Planning is still underway for several projects. See full meeting overview presentation here.

Jimmy Ghaphery (Associate Dean for Scholarly Communications & Publishing) provided an update on the progress of the Open and Affordable Course Content and how VCU Libraries works collaboratively across the University to reduce the cost of student textbooks.

Over the summer, VCUL awarded eight projects for the Affordable Course Content Awards to faculty and ANTH103 was awarded a VIVA Open Course Grant. VCUL was also selected to participate in the VIVA Curriculum Driven Acquisitions Program.

Gariepy provided a summary of the results of the LibQual survey, which focuses on library satisfaction and service quality. Surveys were administered in Spring 2022 between March and early April. A combined response rate of 7.69% was received from undergraduate and graduate students and faculty across all three campuses. VCU Libraries saw stability or growth in user satisfaction regarding library spaces, collections, and services between 2017 and 2022, and enormous growth in satisfaction from 2004 (the first time we administered the survey) to present.

Herold briefly mentioned that the VCUL Strategic Action Plan is currently being updated to match Quest 2028. Additionally, VCUL submitted seven external proposals for fiscal year 2022 that have been funded for more than $400,000.

In closing, Herold invited VLAC members to review the VCU Libraries 2021-22 Year in Review Report and to support our library initiatives this year, including the upcoming Inaugural Social Justice Lecture on October 27, 2022, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm in the Lecture Hall. See the full meeting overview slide deck here.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.

Informational Links
VLAC charge and roster
VCUL News
VCUL Events

Upcoming Events
VLAC meets 2:00-3:00pm on the following dates:
- November 10, 2022
- January 26, 2023
- April 6, 2023