

Public Services Advisory Committee  
November 15, 2011  
G62, Killam Library

Present: Ann Barrett, James Boxall, Donna Bourne-Tyson, Geoff Brown, Ian Colford, Marc Comeau, Sharon Longard, Mark Lewis, Michael Moosberger, Michelle Paon, Gwyn Pace, Helen Powell, Karen Smith

Regrets: Tina Usmiani

1. Approval of the agenda
  - a. approved
2. Minutes from October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - a. approved
3. Wireless service at Dalhousie (Marc Comeau)
  - a. ITS has deployed a new certificate which will have a very positive impact on students who use Windows laptops. In the past, students would try to connect, the connection would fail, they would seek out help and then need to run a special installer to set up their laptop properly. Now, they will be presented with a warning screen asking if they want to connect or not and if they select "connect", that's it - they're off and running. It's not perfect because we'd rather not have that warning come up, but it's a tremendous step forward. Mac users have had a similar warning presented to them since the initial deployment and evidence at the Help Desk suggests that they all accept the warning and connect. That's why we expect Windows users to behave in a similar manner. The numbers are significant; if we include the Computer Science Help Desk, we estimate that almost 1500 students came to the two desks to get the installer run on their laptop since September. That's a lot of inconvenienced students and last year's number show that there would otherwise remain a steady monthly stream through the academic year. Thanks to this change, those students should now be able to connect right away and not need to come seeking assistance.
4. and
5. Discussion re continuance of PSAC / Discussion re possibility of Librarians Council
  - a. Following comments/suggestions put forth:
    - i. Librarians Council a good idea.
    - ii. Librarians Council would provide an opportunity to create Terms of Reference for librarians across the system and for corresponding to faculties.
    - iii. some issues, such as reports from senior administration, updates regarding space planning issues, etc. that would normally have been reported in PSAC could be communicated in another way, e.g. e-mail
    - iv. Librarians Council would provide a forum for librarians to bring issues forward that they feel strongly about
    - v. QUESTION – would Librarians Council consist solely of librarians; ANSWER – no, would also include across-the-system appointments of non-librarian staff, e.g. Head of Systems, Communications Office, Director of GIS
    - vi. care must be taken with the Terms of Reference
    - vii. what would the role of a Librarians Council be – advisory? managerial?

- viii. how would the Head of Killam fit in?
  - ix. what would happen to sub-committees formed by PSAC such as Dalspace Committee and Digital Initiatives Group? If they are to continue what would the structure be and who would they report to?
  - b. Donna reported that most library systems have some form of librarians council that:
    - i. run as a democracy
    - ii. the Chair is not the University Librarian
    - iii. recommendations are made to the University Librarian
    - iv. sub-committees are struck as needed
  - c. It was suggested that a meeting to discuss the structure of the Librarians Council be set up.
  - d. Donna advised that Human Resources is willing to work with us and provide workshops on how to manage meetings for chairs of committees.
  - e. PROPOSED PLAN OF ACTION
    - i. Donna will circulate information currently on hand regarding librarians councils at other institutions.
    - ii. Librarians Council meetings will take place on the third Tuesday of each month from 9:15 – 11:00 a.m.
    - iii. The Council should aim to have Terms of Reference within three months.
6. Other Business
- a. James reminded everyone that GIS Day is November 16<sup>th</sup> and events will take place at the Student Union Building.
  - b. Karen reminded everyone of the Karen Winter reading in the DUASC Reading Room at 7:30 pm on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Donna asked for a motion on the dis-banding of PSAC

James Boxall moved that PSAC be dis-banded. The motion was seconded by Helen Powell. Vote to support this motion was unanimous.

Donna next asked for a motion regarding the creation of a Librarians Council

Karen Smith moved that the creation of a Librarians Council be investigated. The motion was seconded by Ian Colford. Vote to support this motion: 12 in favour; 1 abstention

It was decided the first meeting to begin discussions of creating a Librarians Council would be January 17, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. in Killam room 2616.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:45 a.m.