

Learning Commons Committee

April 4th, 3:00-4:30

901 YRT



Agenda

1. Notes from Jan. 11th, 2012 meeting
 - Business Arising
2. Information Items:
 - LC promotional videos project
 - LC web site
3. Updates:
 - Virtual Learning Commons (Mark & Ron)
 - Workshops Subcommittee (Peggy & Tom G.)
 - Faculty Subcommittee (Mark)
4. Discussion:
 - LC Hub sign strategy (Norda & Tom S.)
 - Promotion in College Handbooks (Norda)
 - Summer programming (Mark & Norda)
 - LC membership next year (Mark)
5. Other Business?

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http://www.library.yorku.ca/cms/learning-commons_committee/

Present: T. Greenwald, D. Twombly, J. Dupuis, R. Sheese, S. Bury, P. MacFarlane, N. Majekodunmi, T. Scott, J. Lagerquist, M. Robertson, P. Warren.

Secretary: M. Scott
Regrets: L. Ubaldi

1. Notes from Jan. 11th, 2012 meeting

- Business Arising – minutes accepted
- Transitions open workshops were successful. They will be coming to an end in April. There are no plans to run this series in subsequent years however.
- The committee also formally welcomed the Library's new Communications Officer Jocelyn Lagerquist as a guest to this meeting.
- Canadian Learning Commons Conference May 7-9th – Calgary - York should have rep. Action - MR to ask CA about funding a representative from LC to attend.
- Wednesday LC road trip to Guelph to check out Science Learning Commons, organized by J. Dupuis. Other participants: Richard Hornsey, John Amanatides, Hugh Chesser Tanya Noel, and Mark Robertson. This Learning Commons is the only one specific to Sciences. Programming and organization will be explored. A report will be given at next meeting.

2. Information Items:

- LC promotional videos project – Kent Murnaghan worked with three students to formulate scripts. As of the first week of April 2012 the projects moved into post-production. The final project should be delivered by June or July to be ready for September. J. Lagerquist will assist with defining a strategy on how to use them for promotion.

- Learning Commons web site – Norda, Peggy and Dianne met with Library Computing staff. Will be creating new page for workshops and will speak to Terry Danylak regarding Learning Commons WordPress page. Ideas presented to Library Computing Services were workable and will have something in place for September.

3. Updates:

Virtual Learning Commons (Mark & Ron).

Our contract with elearning consultant Kelly Juhasz extends only to end of April, and we are busy trying to arrange for elearning work into next year. The RFP process failed – only one applicant, and was not appropriate for our needs. We are now in conversation with a contractor for this coming year.

AIF Day on May 9th - AIF projects will be celebrated. Selected projects have been chosen to highlight the three themes of AIF:

- elearning
- experiential learning
- 1st year experience.

The Virtual Learning Commons has been chosen for elearning theme. M. Robertson has been working with some of the students who participated in VLC focus groups, who will be filmed for sound clips on how the VLC will assist students in completing academic papers.

The VLC has restructured the responsibilities of the steering committee, content teams, and elearning consultant. The steering committee will take a more active role in the review of content produced by the content teams. Also the steering committee will produce initial drafts of some of the modules.

Workshops Subcommittee (P. Warren & T. Greenwald) P. Warren delivered the end of year report on a series of 3 collaborative workshops for students.

The remaining FGS-oriented workshop is still outstanding. It will discuss how to research the admissions program package and writing the grant proposal and will be rolled out in the Fall.

A roster of workshops is available for future development including one on numeracy and statistical literacy. A New segment on Report Writing will be directed toward international students.

WordPress – Pedagogical materials will be kept on a site restricted to “Staff” and accessible from Learning Commons site. Goals for next year include creating a core curriculum.

Faculty Subcommittee: M. Robertson & R. Sheese.

- This AIF project focuses on integrating academic literacies in their courses. During the summer: lit review on this topic, some focus groups and interviews with faculty members.
- Have hired a graduate student (R. Katz) to help conduct the literature review. And will conduct the interviews and focus groups. We need to investigate more what faculty understand by the term “academic literacies” etc.

4. Discussion:

LC Hub sign strategy (N. Majekodunmi & T. Scott)

We need a better sign strategy in the Atrium of the 2nd floor Scott Library. It is not clear to students when they are in the LC. Strategy: To have on the bulkhead above the hub ‘Welcome to Learning Commons @ Scott Library’. Another sign for the hub will identify what kinds of academic supports are in the Hub and what kinds of needs they are designed to meet.

Action – convene a meeting with Tom, Norda, the person responsible for signage from CSBO and Clay Brown (from Marketing and Communications).

There is also a need for a directional kiosk in the atrium.

Promotion in College Handbooks

N. Majekodunmi is coordinating promotion in College Handbooks.

Approximately 7000 of them are printed each year. She has contacted Suzanne Park at Bethune regarding pricing, etc.

Our choices are double sided tab insert for \$1500 or single sided insert for \$750.

Action: N. Majekodunmi will inquire about the cost for advertising in specific handbooks. We will reuse the remaining stock of our postcards from last year.

We should promote @ open house. Mark to contact Shelby Verhooven in recruitment to get on the invitation list.

Summer programming (M. Robertson & N. Majekodunmi)

- N. Majekodunmi – statistics on Learning Commons usage reveal a drop in services. March 29th was the last drop-in date for learning skills. We will conduct the same number of drop-in hours as we did last year. May June and July.
- LC membership next year (M. Robertson)

- Norda will chair the LC Committee next year. John will be Acting AUL, Info Services. T. Greenwald suggested Andrea Mckenzie as a replacement for him. Stephanie Bell is another possibility for Writing representative. R. Sheese is going on sabbatical will be replaced by John Spencer.

Adjourned @ 4:37pm