

Learning Commons Committee

December 02, 2010

1:30–3:00 p.m.

921 YRT

Agenda

1. Retreat preparation – Dec. 8th, 1-4 (503 Scott) (Mark & Norda)
2. Learning Commons Hub (Mark & Norda)
 - Logistical issues: how is it working? Issues to be resolved?
3. Library Student Advisory Group (LSAG) projects
 - Background: LSAG students have identified several projects for this academic year. These projects may intersect with the LC programming. This is an opportunity to learn more about them and discuss whether and how they dovetail with the LC.
 - i. Project #1: Online Student Peer Community (Elizabeth Watson)
 - ii. Project #2: Undergraduate Conference (Timothy Bristow & Angela Hamilton)
4. Draft of Information Literacy Plan (Mark)
 - The purpose will be to review the draft IL Plan. Sections of it relate to goals of collaboration esp. around academic literacies. To be distributed closer to the date.

Background on LSAG projects:

1) York Undergraduate Conference

York University's undergrads produce a wealth of new research each year, but rarely get the opportunity to share their work outside the classroom. In keeping with the commitment by both the University and the Library to interdisciplinary learning and student engagement, this working group would help organize and host the first York Undergraduate Conference to bring together students from across campus to discuss their findings and learn from one another. LSAG members who volunteer for this project will have the opportunity to create a new event from the ground up, assuming leadership roles in recruiting student and faculty participants, reviewing student submissions, planning panel talks, and promoting the event.

3) Online Student Peer Community

This group will help develop a web site or online environment to foster student community around the library. The purpose of such a site would be for students to share their ideas, knowledge and experiences related to the libraries and to the challenges of conducting research. This could take the form of student forums, blogs (similar to UBC's LEAP Project: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/get-together/blog-squad/>) Moodle or could use other approaches.

Learning Commons Committee

Thursday, December 02, 2010, 1.30 – 300 p.m.
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Attendees: Cherie Bova, Tom Greenwald, Norma Sue Fisher-Stitt, Peggy MacFarlane, Mark Robertson, Tom Scott, Ron Sheese

Guest: Timothy Bristow

1. Retreat preparation – Dec. 8th, 1-4 (503 Scott)
 - Discussion about the agenda
 - 12.00 – 1.00 p.m. people can come and talk about practical issues around the hub. This would be a good time to share information.
 - Part 1: Group discussion about the content of the workshops currently being offered at the hub.
 - Part 2: People will be divided into small groups at the retreat. Each group will have a moderator who will record/report at the end of the discussion. Norma Sue volunteered to be the facilitator/recorder.
 - 5-10 minutes of the retreat time will be set aside for miscellaneous questions.
 - Mark offered to do the formal agenda.

2. Learning Commons Hub
 - Learning Commons Hub is up & running. But there are issues that need to be addressed and adjustments to be made.
 - Everybody in the hub should know what others in the hub are responsible for.
 - Have a common set of questions and answers
 - Writing – Line-up is not working. Ropes can be put in to address this issue.
 - Have a sign re ‘Waiting Area’
 - Have work-study students instruct people
 - “Line-up” Identification is needed.
 - Mark distributed statistics from Learning Skills workshops.

3. Library Student Advisory Group (LSAG) projects
 - LASG identified several projects to work on this year.
 - Project #1 → online student/peer community. Exchange tips/ideas. More exploration is needed. Peer-Mentoring Sub-Committee of the Retention Council can help.
 - Undergraduate Conference → Queens University has been hosting an Undergraduate Conference for the last 5 years. This is a large event which spans for 2 days. To have an event like this at York will give students more opportunity. Students would like to host a small half day event. Abstracts need to be solicited in January for the conference to be held in March. Students across disciplines can get together. Having a poster event is also another option.
 - Complimentary Workshops can be offered to students participating in the conference.
 - This could become a weekly event → display of Posters

- Have people talk about their work in stages throughout the year.
- This event can be built into psychology courses.
- Writing Centre also can help students who want to participate. This event would be a good opportunity for students who wish to apply for Graduate School.
- Continued support is needed for this project.
- How to bring faculty members onboard?
- Presentation skills also can be improved through this project.
- Agreed that students whose work is accepted will be offered a mentoring opportunity with Learning Commons Partners.

4. Draft of Information Literacy Plan (Mark)

- Last plan is up for renewal.
- To be revisited at a future meeting