Randall Library Advisory Board
September 22, 2021
Minutes

Attendees:
Emma Nielson, Alana Seaman, Halie Walker, Conor Sastre, Maggie Tyndall, Olivia Fario, Sayantani Dasgupta, Dr. Sharyne Miller, Will Wilkinson, Cynthia Brown, Brenda Pate, Emily Silverman, Jan Davidson, Elizabeth Carbone, Ursula Ramsey, Robby Fensom, Dr. Caitlin Ryan, Dr. Lucy Holman, Laura McBrayer, Nathan Saunders, Susannah Benedetti, Stephanie Crowe, Nicole Tekulve, Angie Edwards

Welcome
Lucy welcomed everyone, and everyone introduced themselves. We have three new students replacing those who graduated.

Randall updates

Academic Affairs reorganization – The Provost, Jamie Winebrake, developed a reorganization plan for Academic Affairs. The library is now part of Teaching, Learning, and Library Services. Teaching, Learning, and Library Services includes Randall, the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), and Distance Education and eLearning (DEeL). Lucy oversees the three units, and while we have always collaborated with the two units, we will be finding many ways to work together and finding efficiencies within the units. This reorganization has led to the Library rethink our organization. We will share our plans for the library reorganization at the next meeting.

New faculty – The Library has six new faculty.

- Lynnee Argabright, Research Data Librarian, Scholarly Research Services
- Lencia Beltran, Special Collections Archivists and Diversity Resident
- Allison Kittinger, Scholarly Communications Librarian
- Sam Zelick, Sciences Librarian
- Kiana Webster, Social Sciences Librarian
- Eva Sclippa, Humanities Librarian
**Summer Renovations** – Over the summer several areas have been renovated. A new family area with the children’s collection has been created on the first floor where our former reference collection at been. It is a very family friendly, welcoming space. Hopefully, this semester we will add a lactation pod for nursing mothers, both students and faculty.

In addition, we renovated an underutilized lounge space to create *Retreat at Randall*. Anne Pemberton developed this idea, and based on her ideas, we are creating a space that focuses on mental health, wellness, and mindfulness. It can provide a retreat if students need a break from studying and allow faculty led groups to use the space for meditation and mindfulness. We were hoping to have a dedication in memory of Anne, but with COVID, we have not been able to do an opening. The space is open and hopefully soon we will be able to hold an event.

**Scholarly Research Services** - We now have a fully conceived department with a full suite of services available primarily for faculty and graduate students. They are offering several workshops this semester.

**Randall’s First Published Book** - The Library has gone into the publishing business and has published their first book. It is an open educational resource written by Dr. Gabriel Lugo, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics. This is a partnership we have with UNC Press, and we join the ranks of nine other campuses within the UNC system to serve as a publisher for UNC faculty to produce free and low-cost materials for students. This book is now available for as an eBook. Students can purchase the book, and it is printed on demand at a very low cost.

**Remembering Anne Pemberton** - We lost Anne Pemberton on June 11, 2021, through a tragic accident. We are still reeling from her loss and mourning her passing. She was a force within Randall Library and across campus. She represented the Library on Faculty Senate and many committees across campus. We are looking at several activities, including the possibility of a scholarship (see below), in her memory.

Stepphanie Crowe has graciously accepted the position of Interim Associate Director for Research and Instructional Services.

**Student Award**

The Library would like to develop a student award or scholarship opportunity for students. The main purpose of Anne’s work was to benefit student success and the student experience. She was also very involved in wellness and mindfulness. In addition, social justice, and anti-racism. We would like to have input from the Advisory Board on what would be the most beneficial award to be offered. It will not be a full scholarship but something to help students and properly remember her.
The issue closest to Anne’s heart was students.

- Ms. Dasgupta suggested something to honor students who are possibly making a difference within their programs and communities.

- Liz talked explained a project that she is involved in where areas are set up in libraries or schools that individuals can get needed items, such as toiletries or food. At UNCW, this could be a space where student can safely access items they need.

- Dr. Ryan talked about an initiative focused on wellness for faculty and staff with marginalized identities, and there may be partnership opportunities for students as well. Marginalized providers would come to provide meditation and massage for those individuals.

- Robbie suggested something to acknowledge how wide Anne’s interest were.

- Emma suggested something that focused on student’s involved in mental health and wellness advocacy.

- Dr. Seaman suggested something that gave students an opportunity to try something new.

- Ms. Silverman suggested that whatever we choose, the student should report back to the Advisory Board through a presentation.

The Library is meeting with Advancement to set up a fund to receive donations. This would be a fund in her name, and hopefully by next fall, we can create opportunities for students.

**Suggested topics for the year**

Lucy requested ideas and topics for future Advisory Boards.

Dr. Seaman suggested a library drop boxes in various location around campus, especially now that campus is so spread out.

Dr. Ramsey asked about the Library artwork that was discussed last spring. Lucy explained that many new pieces were incorporated into the Library over the summer; many of the pieces represent marginalized communities. Lucy sent out pictures of some of the art following the meeting.

Emily suggested more information on the special collections, exploring the different majors are students are involved in, and better understanding of the partnerships library faculty are engaged in.
Nathan agreed a regular report Special Collections is a good idea. Since the last meeting the Library has received the following collections: the Bertha Todd collection, the Robert Ruark collection, and Senator RC Soles’ collection.

Dr. Seaman suggested more advertising of Library events and items of interest across campus to get faculty, staff, and students to visit the Library.

Lucy suggested having a virtual tour and showing off the podcasting studio along with taking a deeper dive into the Digital Makerspace which includes 3-D modeling, 3-D printing, virtual reality, and many other things.

Ms. Dasgupta gave a shout out to Special Collections and the Digital Makerspace. Students in her creative writing class are creating assignments inspired by their visit to Library spaces.

Emma suggested having students teach other students about the various Library departments.

Emma asked about the Library’s social media and how the Library can better communicate to students through social media. While the Library social media sites do not have a huge following, it may be possible to have students help increase the following.

Dr. Seaman asked if the Library targets specific classes and suggested that it may be helpful to have students present the information. Stephanie clarified that the Library does present in classes; the challenge is that there is so much information literacy content that must be covered, so there is not time to cover other topics.

Our next week will be in November, Angie will be in touch soon to get a date.