

Student Library User Group

16.00 Thursday 30 October 2014

Arts Seminar Room 4

MINUTES

PRESENT: **Student Representatives:** Ondrej Hajda (Director of Representation & Chair), Darya Smirnova (SRC Education Officer), Charlotte Potter (Arts/Divinity), Katy Rae (Science/Medicine), Tania Strützel (Postgraduate Convener), Lily Barnes (Art History), Clara Douglas (Biology), Mabel Barclay (Biology), Cordelia Mikita (Classics), Paul Macfarlane (Chemistry), Alex Taylor (Divinity), Ernest Li (Economics & Finance), Hannah Munro (History), Sophie Klasan (History), Adam Pope (International Relations), Ainikki Riikonen (International Relations), Chris Peys (International Relations), Maxime Seguin (International Relations), Louis Fern (Management), Glen Falconer (Mathematics & Statistics), Tomasz Hollanek (Modern Languages), Fidan Gasimova (Film Studies), Helen Giles (Physics & Astronomy), Yunkai Li (Psychology & Neuroscience), and Danielle Polemeni-Hegarty (Social Anthropology).

Library: Vicki Cormie (Senior Academic Liaison Librarian), Graeme Hawes (User Services Manager), Ewan McCubbin (Assistant Director, Liaison & User Services), Hilda McNae (Senior Academic Liaison Librarian), Sharon Nangle (Academic Liaison Librarian), and Louise Pidcock (minutes).

Everyone introduced themselves to the group.

1) APOLOGIES

OH passed on apologies from the Medicine School President.

2) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes from the last meeting were approved and the following were matters arising.

- **POWER SOCKETS**

EMcC informed the group there were ongoing discussions about additional power sockets being fitted on level 3 and 4 of the Main Library. EMcC said it was technically possible to now do this work, at a cost of £50,000 although nothing would be started this academic year. John MacColl, Director of the Library is to meet with the Principals Office to get more backing for this to take place. We were looking at work commencing in June next year. The work will take approximately a month per floor and EMcC informed us he did not know how disruptive this work would be. There had been a 100% increase in the sockets fitted to the perimeter of the building during the 2011/12 redevelopment.

- **HEATING**

The heating issue within the Library continues to be a problem. The perimeter system has been switched off for 18 months owing to it being a water based system which was causing flooding. Therefore the perimeter of the building is colder than the core. The problems arise when the temperature of the core is increased to make the perimeter warmer. The core then gets too hot to be acceptable to both students and staff working in these areas. There were on-going discussions between the Library Management team, Estates and the original

contractors who put the heating system in. EMcC said he would keep the group informed of any updates on this and asked the users to keep Library staff informed of their views on the differing temperatures. The more timely and precise the feedback from students on problems they experience with heating, the better for the Library in trying to tackle the problem.

3) STUDY SPACE

OH asked the group for any ideas they had for alternative rooms throughout the University that could be used as additional study spaces.

- It was asked if the Bell Pettigree Museum space could be used in the evenings. OH said he would look into this.
- The common rooms throughout the University were suggested.
- School 5 lounge.
- Classrooms in the Buchanan building when not being used for teaching purposes.
- The Buchanan Lecture Theatre.
- Schools in the Quad.
- Group study spaces within the medical sciences building

GH said when some of these rooms had been used in the past there had been no takers as students preferred in the end to use the Main Library. There should be more group study spaces available as well as individual ones.

A PGT student stated the space available to them for study was not equal to the space allocated to PGR's. EMcC said it may be possible to open Martyrs to PGT's at weekends and evenings although he wasn't convinced this was practical. He said he understood the difficulties faced by specific groups of students and he would do his best to look at alternative study spaces. The Gateway will be available for study space in semester 2 for 80-85 students 08.00-21.30 daily.

AP. OH is to investigate other buildings throughout the University to use as group study spaces. He also asked the group if they had any ideas to let him know.

AP EM to look into options for allowing PGTs access to Martyrs in the evenings and at weekends.

4) MOREBOOKS SERVICE

At the start of the school year schools are given a budget to be spent on books. It is the schools' responsibility to purchase the books not the Library. The Academic Liaison team recognised there weren't enough multiple copy and dissertation books available. The morebooks@st-andrews.ac.uk service was started to purchase these books. The Academic Liaison team were given extra money from the central budget to finance this project. If students feel there aren't enough copies in the Library they can email morebooks@st-andrews.ac.uk and their request will be considered. The requests will be dealt with as quickly as is possible. OH asked the group to pass the word round this service was available. If a request was urgent, students were advised to contact the relevant Academic Liaison team member as this would speed the process up.

It was asked if audio visual material could be purchased this way. VC confirmed this was possible but could take longer to source. HMcN confirmed they bought revised copies of books when a new version was published. VC informed the group there was also a digitisation

service available if only a specific chapter of a book or journal was required. The required piece could be scanned and made available to the student.

5) RECALLS

We were informed 50% of Library stock is now held in store. Recalls for these books are made online on a 24 hour delivery basis and only on weekdays. At the moment there is no weekend service. The Collection team are looking at ways they can extend this to cover recalls made at the weekends. Currently there are 3 people working on this so the implications on staff need to be looked at carefully.

6) ONLINE READING LISTS

HMcn informed us not all modules have online reading lists. The digitised readings are now embedded in these lists and are no longer available on MMS and Moodle. HMcn felt this was an improved service. To access some of this type of information especially for science students an institutional log in has to be used. VC asked science students to feedback to their academics that it would be useful for them to be visited by the Liaison team. VC informed us she would be happy to go out to the science schools to talk about Library resources. She informed the students there was a subject guide available for all schools which contains all types of information.

7) LIBRARY DROPIN SESSIONS/LIBRARY SESSION FOR 1ST YEARS

SN informed the group about the drop in sessions that had been run by the Library in the last academic year. Apparently these sessions had not been very well attended, one having no attendants. These sessions had been run for students to drop in and ask about how best to use Library resources on an informal basis. There are now being run on a Wednesday and Thursday morning 10.15-10.45 in the Library Teaching Room on level 3 of the Main Library. SN asked for suggestions on how students would like these sessions to run and promote the service better. GH said users could always ask at the front desk to see if anyone from the Liaison team was available.

8) LIBQUAL SURVEY

EMcC quickly told us about the LibQual survey on the Library webpages. He informed us this year's version was much shorter than in previous years. There had been 550 people fill in the online questionnaire so far and it is on for another 2 weeks. He informed the group we must continue to fill in this survey to lobby for continued investment from the University.

9) AOCB

OH asked for any feedback from the group about issues within the Library that concerned them.

- It was asked if the hand driers in the toilets could be quieter. EMcC told us Estates had already turned them down but this had made them not quite as effective. He said he would contact Estates to see if anything further could be done.
- It was asked if some of the computers in the Library could have some of the specific programmes the Science students use downloaded onto them. GH said he would look into this.
- More staplers were asked for throughout the building.

AP EM to follow up with Estates on the volume of the hand driers in the Main Library.

AP GH to follow up on the issue of specific software on Library PCs.

OH asked that students let him or library@st-andrews.ac.uk know if they had any feedback on any aspects of the Library. DS asked for any feedback from students on study space for a meeting she was attending next week to email her at edu@st-andrews.ac.uk.

The next Student Library User Group meeting is 12 February 4-5pm.