

Student Library User Group
16.00 Monday 6 April 2015
Committee Room, Students Association

MINUTES

PRESENT: Student Representatives:

Sally Allmark (Moral Philosophy), Louise Cameron (Biology), Jack Carr (History), Hannah Chinn (Art History), Glen Falconer (Mathematics & Statistics), Louis Fern (Management), Hayden Goodfellow (Physics & Astronomy), Ondrej Hajda (Director of Representation & Chair), Jessie Lee (Psychology), Paul Macfalane (Chemistry), Eleanor Mullin (Moral Philosophy), Adam Pope (International Relations) Katy Rae (Science/Medicine), Elin Rutherford (Philosophical & Anthropological Studies) and Joe Tantillo (the next Director of Representation & Chair).

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) and Louise Pidcock (minutes).

1) APOLOGIES

Lily Barnes (Art History), Clara Douglas (Biology), Hannah Munro (History), Charlotte Potter (Divinity/Arts) and Stina Wassen (International Relations)

Everyone introduced themselves to the group.

2) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

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

• **ADDITIONAL POWER SOCKETS ON LEVEL 3 & 4**

The installation of new power cables to some of the previously powerless desks on level 4 took place during the Spring Vacation. Work was carried out overnight to cause the least disruption to users. These improvements were carried out with the intention of seeing how scalable this work would be in order that other desks on levels 3 and 4 could also be upgraded later this year. The actual sockets are yet to be installed to the desks.

As everything progressed well, EM intends that work on the remaining powerless desks will commence during the summer vacation. The vast majority of desks will have power supplied to them – these are mostly on the south elevation of the building (where the PC clusters are) – but there are some desks to which power cannot be routed. It was hoped there would be as little disruption as possible but the logistics are still to be agreed with Estates and the electrical contractor. PGs were happy with the work through the spring break and no problems were foreseen.

The group were told about the planned closure of the whole University throughout the last four days of the Open Golf Championship, Thursday 16-Sunday 19 July. All University Library facilities would be closed to students during this 4 day period.

It was asked if opening Martyr's during this time could be considered.

AP. OH asked if the expected closure of Library buildings could be announced in advance to allow students to plan around it.

AP. EMcC and GH to look into the opening of Martyr's Kirk during the Open Championship.

AP. OH to check if the Gateway is also open during the Open Championship.

- **STORE RECALL**

GH reported there has been a delay in trialling the store recalls. He hoped to progress with this in the next couple of weeks with a 4-6 week spell to access demand afterwards.

- **J F ALLEN LIBRARY OPENING HOURS**

OH informed the group he had not had time to carry out the petition to open J F Allen Library for additional hours for other students. He hoped Joe Tantillo, Director of Representation Elect, would pursue this idea. GH confirmed that the opening hours in JF Allen Library would be extended for the exam period. Postgrads mentioned that a concern of the Science schools was to do with the security risk in the building when it was being used by other students in the evenings and at weekends.

EMcC said if the issue for some students was more to do with specific texts held at JFAL that were otherwise not held in the Main Library, they should get in touch with morebooks@st-andrews.ac.uk to see it was possible to have additional copies bought.

AP. OH asked to be informed of any new opening hours at J F Allen.

AP. OH asked the group to publicise the morebooks@st-andrews.ac.uk service.

- **ST MARY'S COLLEGE AND KING JAMES LIBRARY OPENING HOURS**

In the absence of the Divinity rep it was not known the number of students requiring the building to be open out of normal hours. Hopefully this will be followed up next year. There were no plans for an extension to the opening of St Mary's Library during the exams. Requests were being proposed for books to be bought through the morebooks@st-andrews.ac.uk for Psychology for placing in the Main Library. HMcN informed us some multiple copies of Psychology books had already been moved to the Main Library. VC and HMcN reiterated the importance of students telling Library staff of which specific books were required and where they should ideally be located.

3) NEW MAIN LIBRARY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

EM reported that a design team have been appointed by the University. They are currently working on proposals for the new facilities at the Guardbridge site, intended to accommodate Special Collections, storage for General Collections and the majority of Library staff.

EMcC reminded everyone we are still in the early stages of this project and that the design and costs have still to get approval from Court before any work progresses. Hopefully the design team will have a proposal to submit in time for Court's meeting in the autumn. Once the work has been signed off the redevelopment will hopefully commence in Guardbridge by the end of the year. Only when staff and the relevant collections have moved to Guardbridge (est. Summer 2016) will work commence on the Main Library.

EMcC stated this could result in the region of 300 more study spaces and improved infrastructure in the Library, including more toilets and a bigger café. EMcC did not think the Library would have to close entirely during any refurbishment work but things were at too early a stage to confirm this with any certainty.

OH reminded us he is the main student representative on the Project's board and Joe will assume this role once he takes office in the summer.

OH asked as it was seen the Main Library was used by mainly Arts students, was there any way we could help Science students feel more a part of the Main Library. A Library rep said most of the books a Science student would use are in the JF Allen Library anyway. He added it would be appreciated if a few of the core text books were placed in the Main Library.

AP. VC asked if she could be emailed of any specific books that were in JF Allen where extra copies could be bought for the Main Library.

4) E-BOOKS

VC asks students every year about the preference for ebook versus print and asked the committee for their feedback. A discussion took place on the use of e-books by different disciplines.

- On the whole it was felt e-books were useful.
- The cost of e-books compared to hard copies was said to be one of the deciding factors on their use.
- If books are need for longer than the short loan lending period then an e-book would be useful.
- E-books without lending limitations are preferable.
- Technical problems cause irritation for users of e-books.
- Some publishers produce e-books that are easier to use than others. It was suggested that students be polled for their preferred publishers and e-book models.
- It was also recognised many students still like hard copies of books.
- Science students read a lot of papers so they are used to reading online.
- VC stated lots of text books are not available as e-books.

AP. A Library survey was suggested on the student's views on the best publishers of e-books.

5) SAULCAT LOGIN

GH informed the group the problems involving the SAULCAT login that occurred at the last meeting had been solved. These were occurring because students had dual status. If any students were still encountering problems they should email library@st-andrews.ac.uk to get the problem resolved using the barcode login.

6) MAIN LIBRARY LEVEL 2 FURNITURE

EM reported on changes to Level 2 of the Main Library, particularly the lack of furniture on level 2 in front of the short loan area where the shelves have recently been removed. From 20th April this space will be filled with new tables and chairs. There will be 24 new seats with power and USB ports, the same as presently on the north side of the building, the round tables with the large green chairs.

The new SafePod on level 2 to allow users to access secure data will soon be available.

GH updated the group on the new DVD players on level 2 that were available for general use. These were bought with a gift from a former University employee.

7) KING JAMES LIBRARY FURNITURE

EM reported that the plan to add new furniture to the King James Library during the spring break did not go as planned due to a delay in the delivery of the new furniture. The plan was to create 12 study spaces with power and add new furniture sympathetic to the Library's surroundings. There have been lots of issues with this project and although new carpet has been fitted and there is temporary furniture from Parliament Hall in place at the moment. The company delivering the furniture have been informed they can only deliver the

furniture over a weekend and the Library will not be closing again. Hopefully we will be in possession of the new furniture over the coming weeks.

8) MARTYRS KIRK

EMcC asked the committee to spread the word throughout the student body about the ongoing trial use of Martyrs Kirk by PGTs during evenings and at weekends. He informed the group that the trial would continue until the end of semester and then reviewed. Fortunately, there had been no overcrowding problems and occupancy numbers had increased over the weekends and during the evening.

It was felt there was some confusion over the usage rules of the Kirk resulting in a few complaints. It had been agreed between the Proctor, Director of Representation and Library Directorate that a joint message would be issued to all PGs, reminding them of the details of the trial and conditions of use.

AP said all the feedback he had received from PGRs and PGTs had been positive. It was noted the Kirk had been a useful guaranteed place for PGTs to work especially when commuting long distances. EMcC stated he had hoped the lockers at Martyrs would have been used more as they had been requested by PGRs but in reality very few have been rented.

It was asked if integrated masters students in their final year could be allowed to use Martyrs to study. GH said they would need an idea of numbers before this could be considered. This would also need to be cleared with the Proctor's office before any decision could be made.

AP. EMcC to look into the use of Martyrs by integrated Masters Students.

AP. All student reps to spread the word within their schools in relation to the detail of the trial and to request that users of Martyrs give the Library feedback on the trial.

9) AOCB

It was noted Stina Wassen (International Relations) wanted to thank all Library staff for their helpfulness through email and via the help desk over the past year.

HMcN informed the group a pilot of 3 day loans for texts used by some modules had been taking place. She said we should have a better idea of how this had worked out at the end of the semester.

OH asked the group if there would be a demand for a 3 day short loan over the whole Library. It was felt this could lead to problems with the usage of books.

VC reminded the group that the Library will be looking at a new library management system in the next couple of years. This would provide the potential for bookable slots for short loan material but that could still be borrowed on a self-service basis.

GH reported IT Services would be trialling the extended staffing of their help desk from 1800-2100 weekdays in line with the opening of the Library help desk. The trial would last from the 6th to the 24th of April (inclusive) and would be reviewed at the end of that period.