



S.L.U.G. (Student Library User Group)

29th of October 2018, 5pm

Students' Association Society Room D

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Schools represented: Geography, Classics, Maths, IR, Social Anthropology, Chemistry, Art History, Geology, Physics, Management, Psychology, History, Computer Science.
 - b. Library representation: Graeme Hawes, Vicki Cormie.
 - c. Students' Association: Alice Foulis (Director of Education/Chair).
2. Apologies: English, Graduate School, Hilda McNae (library), Philosophy, Divinity, Film Studies.
 - a. Absent: Music, Biology, Medicine, Economics, Modern Languages.
3. Matters Arising:
 - a. New Library Catalogue and testing
 - i. New library cataloguing/searching system – to be called 'Library Search' and to replace the current, inefficient system.
 - ii. Staff will be on hand to help.
 - iii. Still doing user testing and looking for volunteers for end of next month – with rewards. Sessions will be short and will involve making a search on the system. Library will look for these volunteers soon.
 - b. Library Drop-ins, classes and other support requests
 - i. Pods on level 2 have Academic Liaisons there to help – have been there this semester but not much uptake. There to help – can offer more support than help desk.
 - ii. School Presidents and Library Reps to signpost/advertise this resource. Every Thursday 10-12pm.
 - iii. Possibility for the liaisons to go out to Science libraries to offer similar

service there too, as some science students don't use main library – more information to follow.

- c. Booker Prize event
 - i. Tickets sold out for Halloween event on true crime documents but author event on 28th November 5:30pm in Buchanan Lecture Theatre is open to all – please come along and encourage others to attend also.
 - ii. More information can be found here: <https://events.st-andrews.ac.uk/events/booker-prize-project-graeme-macrae-burnet-lecture-2/>
- d. Journals versus desks survey – student attitudes to the questionnaire
 - i. Encourage others to fill out questionnaire on this issue.
 - ii. Idea is to move level 4 journals to free up more desks. Initiative from the Principal's Office.
 - iii. 1800+ responses to the survey so far – from both staff and students.
 - iv. Hasn't been firmly decided which journals will be moved – but not anything which is only available in print. Would still be available by recall system (but this might take up to 24 hours).
 - v. Survey closes on Wednesday 31st – can be found here: <https://standrews.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/journals-or-seats>
- e. St Mary's opening hours
 - i. Full year trial for St Mary's opening hours to be extended to 7:45pm.
 - ii. Also going to have weekends open for this upcoming exam diet.

4. AOCB

- a. Question on study space for this upcoming exam diet:
 - i. Extending hours for JF Allan Library to include weekends for this exam diet.
 - ii. Extra 70 or so seats added this summer in the main library. With this and the extended opening hours, there will be 100 plus extra seats available.
 - iii. Encourage students to use these extra opening hours.
 - iv. There is a possibility for School Presidents to find extra study space in their schools once classes have stopped. Difficult, as rooms get booked up for exams, but possible – even if it is a different room every day.
 - v. Beacon Bar to be used again this year for study space – heating problem that affected it last year will hopefully be sorted.
 - vi. Future plans for Madras learning commons, Guardbridge campus opening rooms up in town, and other University initiatives could have long-term impact on study spaces.
- b. Question about patch of grass behind library:

- i. Were plans for an extension here, but this was scrapped due to the financial crash.
 - ii. Not on the radar now.
- c. Question about whether 5th year science students could have access to PG library:
 - i. Is possible, but only around 40 seats in this library so not ideal.
 - ii. Could be discussed – must be fair among schools (if physicists are allowed then mathematicians should also be, for example).
 - iii. Graeme to consider this issue.
- d. Graeme mentioned the new hot water urns:
 - i. Very popular and successful so far.
 - ii. Has meant additional spills – please encourage students to be careful and to either clean up or report spills.
- e. Future agenda to cover E-books vs print books.

5. Next Meeting: 11th February 2019 at 5pm in Students' Association Small Committee Room.