

Summary for the Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, April 7, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Helena College Donaldson Campus Library Learning Hub

Members present: Barry Brown, John Finn, Karen Henderson, Kimberly Feig, Nathan O’Neill, Robyn Kiesling, Stephanie Hunthausen, Lewis Jackson, Kelsey Anderson, Jessie Pate, Trish Pierson, Della Dubbe

Members absent: Jennifer, Oates, Kimberly Caldwell

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.
- 2) Introduction and roundtable of members – a welcome was extended to three new members: Lewis Jackson, Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Kelsey Anderson, TRiO Advising, Nathan O’Neill, student representative.
- 3) Highlights of the summary of the previous meeting in Teams on December 9, 2021, and the April 22, 2022 email in lieu of a meeting were shared.
- 4) Director’s Report highlights:
 - Our biggest challenge over the past year has been staffing. Mary Ann George resigned; her last day was September 2, 2022. We hired a half-time temporary technician for fall semester. Patricia Pierson was hired in December and her first work day was January 4, 2023. It has also been a challenge recruiting work study students.
 - Kim Caldwell led and guided us to CRLA tutor certification levels I & II.
 - Kim and Della collaborated to create a statement of purpose as well as outcomes and processes for our Academic Recovery Program to be presented to Cabinet.
 - The Library went live with the new Primo VE discovery tool from Ex Libris in June of 2022.
 - The Hub collaborates with and serves all students, employees and departments on campus.
 - Della nominated Shelley Ramberg and Jennifer Rusk for TRAILS Appreciation Awards.
 - We went over Annual Plan Goals for FY2023, added goals, and ongoing goals. (details are in the Director’s Report available from the Library)
 - A librarian will be invited to give at least one Library & Research Instruction session in all introductory COLS classes.
 - Including tech introductory help (Office 365, Moodle, Eduroam, etc.) in orientation was a game changer for students on day one.

5) Forward Focus topics – Open Forum

- We discussed the sharp drop in usage statistics during COVID and the increase afterward. It was suggested that physical materials usage will never rise to past numbers.
- We discussed the necessary technology we should have available for student success. We no longer circulate iPads but have laptops available as a stopgap measure for all students with need. Usage data and anecdotal evidence supports the student need to have hotspots available for checkout as well but they were discontinued in our FY23 budget. With more hybrid and online classes offered, it is essential to have laptops and hotspots available until students can purchase their own, when they cannot afford their own, when their own equipment breaks down, and/or when internet is not available to them due to a move or an unpaid bill. Access is needed daily for student success. It was suggested that there may be possible funding available in FY24.
- Is there something more we can do for dual enrollment students? A short video pertaining to their unique needs was suggested.
- We discussed outreach to the families and children of students. Study groups with story times, and family-friendly events were suggested.
- We discussed the pros and cons of both our homegrown Library Research Tutorial and the readymade Infolit Core from Infobase. A combination of the two was suggested.
- We discussed the increase in the attempts to ban library materials from 458 in 2001 to 1,269 in 2022. What can we do in this political climate? Make sure we have policies in place to deal with challenges.
- We talked about updates on the current legislative House Bills pertaining to libraries. Jennie Stapp, State Librarian, gives us updates on several bills each week.
- We discussed short video creation using Renderforest and Camtasia. Della showed the Renderforest “Top Ten Things You Need to Know About the Library Learning Hub” video created by Mary Ann and updated by Della. It is part of our annual plan to develop at least three short informational videos.
- We discussed chatbots – ChatGPT and Google Bard – and open AI and its impact on the world of higher education and libraries.

6) Further comments & discussion

Barry Brown shared two documents comparing results from ChatGPT and Google Bard, “A community college can best serve its students and faculty by focusing on the following areas” and “Here are some innovative services that 2 year college libraries are providing”.

7) The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.