

Agenda, Learning Resources/Library Committee Meeting

Friday, March 25, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Online Meeting

- I. Review approval of minutes from September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- II. Review completion and posting of new library homepage.
- III. Discuss completion of the software upgrade.
- IV. Review administration of student surveys.
- V. Discuss plans for administering the Faculty Survey of Library Services.
- VI. Review options for authenticating remote users to database resources.
- VII. Review promotional initiatives.

Minutes  
Learning Resources/Library Committee Meeting  
Friday, March 25, 2022  
9:00 AM, Online Meeting

Attendance:

Committee Member	Present	Not Present
Beth Arnold		x
Annette Bever	x	
Tracy Catlin		x
Christina Hoffmaster	x	
Dean Johnston	x	
Melanie Milner		x
Shani Page	x	
Mark Roberson	x	
Amanda Snook		x
Stephen Stafford	x	
Angela Ward		x

- I. Approval of Minutes, September 24, 2021 Meeting
  - A. The Chair noted that the minutes had been approved electronically by a quorum of nine members.
- II. Review of New Library Homepage
  - A. Marian noted that the homepage went live during the first week in February 2022.
  - B. She also highlighted several new components of the page.
    1. Featured Database Section
      - a. It was noted that the feature would be a great way for promoting database resources.
    2. Improved Organization and Layout of Content
      - a. A main goal was to make it easier to locate resources on the page.
      - b. Primary content items were placed prominently on the page for easy access.
    3. Website Terminology
      - a. A main focus was placed on using terms more familiar and less confusing to students.
      - b. The Chair shared data from a website usability study which asked students the terms they found most helpful when trying to locate articles and books on the library website.
      - c. The survey showed students preferred the terms "Find Articles" and "Find Books" to less familiar terms such as databases or catalog.
      - d. Marian noted that the new homepage features the terms Articles and Books along with qualifiers to access both resources via the databases or library catalog.
      - e. Other qualifiers were used to help clarify the terms Intercampus Borrowing and Interlibrary Loan.

- f. [Members complimented the design and layout of the new homepage.](#)
  - 4. Book Display Widget
    - a. Marian noted that she was considering the option of placing a book display widget on the homepage as a means for promoting book collections.
    - b. The CCSSE survey asks students for the number of books they have read for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment. The 3-D book carousel would help to spark interest in title availability and reading.
    - c. [It was noted that instructors would be interested in utilizing the widgets to enhance their course content.](#) Marian stated that she would check on account information. She has contacted the Distance Learning Department to see if the widgets can be posted in Canvas.
  - 5. E-book Circulation: Marian noted that data collected for the IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) survey showed a significant increase in e-book usage.
- III. Software Update
- A. Marian noted improvements to the search interface with the posting of the new catalog.
    - 1. She noted that the filters on the left menu bar made it much easier to sort the search results by format or other criteria.
  - B. Library staff will continue to work on ways for utilizing the new software for improving the efficiency of generating reports and completing other workflow processes and procedures.
- IV. Library Surveys
- A. Marian noted that student surveys for all instructional locations had been posted in Canvas.
    - 1. A memo was sent to faculty requesting their help in encouraging students to go online to complete the survey.
    - 2. Amazon gift cards would be offered as incentives for completing the survey.
- V. Faculty Survey of Library Services
- A. Marian noted that faculty would be surveyed in April. Amazon gift cards would also be offered as incentives.
- VI. Off Campus Access to Database Resources
- A. Marian noted that numerous technical issues interrupted off campus access to database resources in the fall.
    - 1. Problems were caused by issues associated with EZProxy, the software used to authenticate off-campus users.
  - B. It was suggested that Marian research the type of software used by the College's cohort institutions as a means for identifying a more efficient and reliable system.
  - C. Marian discussed the information she found on the authentication systems used by cohort institutions:
    - 1. EZProxy managed on the College's server:
      - a. Western Texas College utilizes this system.
      - b. This is the system used by Vernon College at an annual subscription cost of \$670.00.
    - 2. EZProxy Hosted version:
      - a. Panola College and Northeast Texas College use this system and are pleased with the service.

- b. The hosted service would include a one-time implementation fee of \$2,060.00 and an annual charge of \$2,015.00.
- 3. Open Athens (similar to EZProxy)
  - a. Galveston College and Howard College use this software and are pleased with the functionality and technical support.
  - b. Open Athens would include a one-time implementation fee of \$3,750.00 and a fee of \$10,450.00 for the first year and \$7,035.00 annually thereafter.
- 4. Vendor Supplied Logins Accessed through the Student Portal
  - a. Frank Phillips College, Clarendon College, and Ranger College use this system.
  - b. This is the system we used in the fall as a work-around to ensure off-campus access when EZProxy was down.
  - c. Direct links to the databases along with login credentials were posted in Canvas.

VII. Promotional Initiatives:

- A. Marian noted that the Featured Database component on the homepage was developed as a means for promoting database resources.
- B. The library is also considering the option of posting a book display widget on the homepage for promoting book collections.
- C. Informational posters on library services have been placed in the library at STC.
- D. Services are also promoted via the Library Tips document posted in Canvas and via emails sent to faculty at the start of each semester.
- E. Marian also noted that instructional initiatives will include working to ensure library tutorials meet ADA accessibility guidelines.
  - 1. An audio component needs to be added to those tutorials which include only video and text captions.

VIII. Database Update:

- A. Marian noted that database usage statistics indicated that the CQ Researcher database had not been utilized since the summer 2021.
  - 1. Due to lack of usage, the database was discontinued in March 2022.

IX. Budget Update:

- A. All departments were asked to cut their budgets by 10% to offset reductions in state funding due to declines in enrollment.

X. Adjournment:

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 AM.