

Friends of the University Library (FOL)
Minutes, April 16th, 2021
Zoom Conference

The meeting was called to order by Bob at 10:05 a.m.

Present: Dean Mark Stover, Annette Besnilian, Vickie Campbell, Iris Caplan, Joyclyn Dunham, Bob Gohstand, Jamie Johnson, Darnesa Morris, Jim Parker, Marcy Rothman, Rita Streimer and guests Christina Hennessey, Systems Librarian and Camille Villaflores, 2021 FOL Student Assistant Scholarship Winner.

The minutes of the March meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Announcements:

April is National Poetry month and we will be celebrating that in the Library. Near the end of the month there will be a virtual poetry in your pocket so check the Library website.

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Cultural Heritage month and we will be celebrating by having a virtual book display linked to the Library website, and the Library will be cosponsoring a special event “Uplifting and Healing Asian American Communities: Culture, Action and Social Justice” that will be on May 4th. Mark encouraged everyone to RSVP for this event.

Mark discussed the plans for reopening the Library. The Library partially reopened on March 29th for CSUN students only in a small part of the Library which was a success. About 80-90 students overall came in, averaging 15-20 students per day, to study/print papers/use the computers/etc. in the Library. The Library will continue to use this model of partial reopening for the rest of the Spring semester and throughout the Summer. However, in the Fall if the Library gets approval, the plan is to have a much broader reopening of the Library. This would allow the opening of the whole Library and even with 50% capacity this would allow over a thousand people in the Library at a time. One of the questions is, would this allow the Library to be open to the community at large or limit occupancy to CSUN Faculty, Staff and Students only during the Fall semester? Mark is hoping the Library can be open to the community at large starting in the Fall semester, but we would have to get approval from campus.

Mark mentioned he had sent out a flyer this morning from the Marilyn Magaram Center about their event for Public Policy Day. Annette briefly explained about the history of the Magaram Center’s Public Policy Day event which has been coordinating with the Library for many years, and this year’s event will be on Zoom this Monday. Registration is required and the topic will be Covid-19 Legislation that is impacting health and wellness. The key note speaker will be the Executive Director of Racial Equity from the Los Angeles County Department of Health. The speaker will be speaking during the morning portion while there will be afternoon blocks of activities for the students.

The winner of the 2021 FOL Library Student Assistant Scholarship was introduced to the Board. Camille Villaflores thanked the Board for their support and is majoring in Accounting. She works in the Teacher Curriculum Center/Music Media department of the Library.

Nominations for the next Fiscal Year's FOL Board officers was discussed. The main issue is that Bob has served for two years as President and Marcy has served as Vice President, but due to her increased outside commitments she will be unable to become President. So now we need nominations for President and Vice President. Jamie will be stepping down as the Faculty Representative and Coleen Martin will be the new Faculty Representative for the next year. Darnesa has served as Staff Representative and the Library Council will determine if she will continue for another year or have a new staff member. Mark will talk with some of the Board members about volunteering for the President and Vice President slot offline. Joyclyn nominated Iris Caplan who gently declined. Iris made the motion to continue the current line up of FOL Board officers on an interim basis until the Covid crisis is over and Rita Streimer seconded the motion so the current line up of the FOL Board officers will continue until such time as the emergency is over. Once the emergency is over we can revert to the bylaws.

Mark made the announcement that the Library is working to allow Friends of the Library members to check out books again starting July 1st.

Christina Hennessey, Systems Librarian, made a presentation about the new Library Lockers. The reason for getting the lockers was to be able to have a touchless system checking out books which allowed for minimal impact on Guest Services staff. The Library had shut down last March 30, 2020 until about three weeks ago when we opened to limited Student use due to Covid-19 pandemic. The Library purchased Luxor Lockers which are covered by a personalized vinyl wrap designed by Joyclyn Dunham. We started the Locker Delivery service on March 3rd using the CSUN log in through One Search on the University Library website. Right now, only CSUN Faculty, Staff and Students can check out books but sometime this summer we hope to start to open this service to more people associated with the Library or CSUN i.e. Friends of the Library members. Requests currently are filled once a week and an email will be sent to confirm your order, and then once your request is filled a follow up email will be sent to let you know your items are available in the locker. Your item will only be in the lockers for six days unless you contact Guest Services and ask if you can extend the time held. The email will contain information about parking, the current Covid-19 policy of being on campus and how to get your items out of the locker. There are three ways to retrieve your items from the locker: the touchless system is through the Luxor app, the touchpad controlling the lockers using a six-digit code included in your email, and use of a QR code in either your text or email (you would use the touchpad to scan it).

We have had the lockers for 44 days and have had 104 deliveries since we made the lockers available. There are 63 lockers and currently twenty-six percent are filled but once we open the availability of lockers to more groups of people the demand for the lockers should increase. Eventually we should have twenty-four-hour delivery through the lockers. We will be phasing out the home delivery system in July since it is expensive.

Bob was the first customer and he uses the numerical code to retrieve his requests from the lockers, and he was very pleased with the efficiency of the service. He did not like to use the app due to his privacy concerns. Bob inquired about the cost of the system. Mark used Cares Act money to purchase these lockers and the total cost of everything came to \$25,000. Christina mentioned that to add more lockers would not cost as much. Mark mentioned PPM will need to move the lockers due to having to replace the brick in the front portico area due to water leaking

into the lower level. The brick will be replaced with custom pavers since using brick would be too expensive. This project will be started sometime in the future.

Christina said that if anyone had a question about having an account to check out Library books, they can contact her about it.

Closing Remarks

The next FOL meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 21st at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.