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# Student Government Association Library Committee Meeting Essence notes

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## **Student Government Association Library Committee**

**February 9, 2017**

### **Essence Notes**

Attending: Bede Mitchell, Clement Lau, Fred Smith, David Lowder, Ruth Baker, Debra Skinner, Nikki Rech, Eudiah Ochieng, Hood Souter, Natalie Morris, Sarai Castillo, Alva Britt.

Introductions were made for new Information Services Librarian, Nikki Rech, who will also be the coordinator of the Affordable Learning Georgia program on the GS campus.

Clement updated the group on the usage of the standing computer table placed in the Learning Commons. The survey gathered information over a sixteen day period and recorded comments, all of which were favorable of the desk. The group discussed the possibility of purchasing additional units that could be placed in pairs throughout the Learning Commons. It was suggested that we leave the one desk up front to bring attention to the units and post signs advertising the units and the health benefits of standing versus sitting.

Clement also reported that facility services has added six 36 gallon trash contains in an effort to eliminate the overflow of trash, especially during finals week. He added that the university is once again recycling aluminum cans which will also aid in our efforts to keep the library cleaner. Bede suggested the possibility of the SGA Library Committee participating in a campaign to send out messages encouraging the students to assist in keeping the library cleaner, especially during finals week. Such messages could also discourage the use of chewing tobacco which is a constant problem in our restrooms.

New issues voiced by the SGA committee included student's requests for more tables on fourth floor, more rolling whiteboards, study room logs, and more up to date digital cameras for checkout. They also relayed student's issues with GIL Express. Bede stated that because fourth floor is for quiet study only, study carrels should be considered instead of the larger tables. Adding additional rolling whiteboards is always a consideration when year end funds are available. He requested the committee gather more specifications on the digital cameras for us to follow up on. David informed the group of the new system that will go live May 26 that should eliminate the GIL Express issues.

Sarai comment she did not realize the library had a presentation room. Bede stated that the library has many services that students are not aware of. He suggested the possibility of manning a table at the entrances several times a week where we would feature one or two library services each week. Natalie suggested that the library draft a listing of the offerings the library has and send it to the professors for them to paste this into their syllabus. Bede stated the list could also be highlighted in the liaisons' newsletters.

Bede shared information regarding the initiative given at the recent Open Educational Resource Symposium regarding low cost textbook alternatives; Georgia's version is Affordable Learning Georgia. He discussed the program conducted at the University of Georgia and the response the program received. He added that such a program could have a major impact at Georgia Southern. Nikki stated that several faculty at Georgia Southern are already participating in the program. Bede will forward more information on the program to the SGA committee for their review and discussion at a later meeting.

The next meeting of the SGA committee will be scheduled prior to or right after spring break. Information on the consolidation progress will be discussed and the value of having student input on a work group, if that becomes a possibility for the library.