Library Department Head Meeting Essence Notes

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Deans Council News:
Provost Bartels reports the state has abandoned efforts to implement a performance-based funding formula for the University System. We will continue to employ the current funding model, which relies heavily (but not exclusively) on enrollment patterns.

It is now legal for anyone 18 years and older to carry an electroshock self-defense device on any USG campus. No permit is required, and campuses are not allowed to promulgate any policy that puts limits on this right. The device does not have to be concealed, and may only be used for self-defense purposes.

The Fair Labor Standards Act goes into effect December 1, 2016, but the USG will begin observing it September 1. Individuals earning below $47,476 annually and not in certain types of white collar positions will not be exempt from overtime rules. Faculty are one category of such a white collar position that will continue to be exempt from overtime rules. We will await further information from the University to know whether any of our staff will be exempt. This new law will require close monitoring of the hours worked by our personnel, including a new requirement that non-exempt personnel “clock in and out” like our student assistants have been doing. Employees who 6 or more hours per day must take a lunch break, which requires clocking out and back in.

The office vacated by outgoing Vice President for IT Services Steve Burrell is being remodeled and will become the new Office of the Provost. Many of the Academic Affairs personnel will remain in their current quarters on the top floor of the Pittman Building, but Provost Bartels and her immediate staff will relocate in early September.

Building Issues:
Work on the Writing Center and ADA study rooms is nearly complete, and furniture and equipment are already being brought over from the old Writing Center.

Thursday afternoon we will hold an “active shooter” security exercise on the bottom floor, 3:30-5. Any interested personnel who cannot participate but wish to do so will be provided an opportunity some time before the day of Convocation.

Library Convocation:
In addition to our program featuring new GALILEO Executive Director Lucy Harrison, we will plan to do a de-briefing of the August 2-3 workshops about communication and conflict resolution. We will discuss what we learned and consider how best to put that learning into practice.

Future Department Heads Meeting Schedule:
Future department head meetings will be held at 11am on the Tuesdays when Deans Council meets from 9 to 11. However, due to the August 2 communication workshop, the next Department Heads meeting will be Tuesday, August 9.