

Library Task Force Meeting
Thursday, March 9, 2017

Present: Peter Mercer, Tim Babasade, Beth Barnett, Cathy Davey, Susan Vallario, Roark Atkinson, Leigh Keller, Liz Siecke, Erin McKenna, Stephanie Scheeler

Guests: Joe Connell (for Melissa Van Der Wall), Dan Connelly, Kirsten DaSilva, Sara Gazzillo (Recorder)

Excused: Steve Perry, Melissa VanDerWall

President Mercer instructed the group that the Williams College presentation would be moved up the agenda as it may influence the matrix. The TF was asked to review the summary for the February 28 meeting and provide feedback. Dean Siecke would like to add, if the Library is flooded with new technology we need support and a presence. Also the Google doc maintained by the Library staff is photos of recent travels to other Libraries, not complaints.

Dean Siecke questioned remote storage, should the Library be focusing on this? The Librarians are systematically reviewing the collection as follows:

Things we need immediately

24 hour retrieval

Dark storage for 2 years

VP DaSilva requested this data so the Capital Project Team (CPT) can begin working on a plan. Dan Connelly reiterated the importance of the following information highlighting that the project cannot progress until the following is determined:

Independent swing space or staying in space

Needs are for the next two years to determine space – I have in my notes: Minimum requirements for two years of library function

The feasibility of having construction and operating library in swing space was questioned. Would the construction be disruptive to the daily operations of the Library? Dan Connelly assured the TF most projects are run this way.

A photo tour of the Williams Library was displayed on all four monitors and the following conversations ensued:

The source of funding for renovations was questioned. President Mercer informed the LTF that Williams College was founded in 1893 with peak enrollment at 2200, all in residence. Tuition is \$65-70k annually and they have an endowment of 2.25 billion, 1.150mil per student. They spent 83mil on their library, and you can see the wealth reflected in the new library.

Dean Siecke now has a sense of trust in the process. There was great use of light and we can benefit from the ten year process Williams College went through. Leigh Keller added the use of glass is now welcomed after learning how adaptive the climate control system was to the exterior temperature. The study carrels, no 90 degree angles to reduce sound, glass and windows, and group activity/study rooms are all features that should be included in the renovation.

Trustee Vallario questioned if the site lines in the stacks would work without the high ceilings. A full row of stacks may feel dark and daunting without the high ceiling. Williams College had moving stacks which easily moved and are very efficient.

Stephanie Scheeler echoed the others adding additional notable items; tons of seating areas; computers (MAC & PC). There were single tables for laptops, as well as, larger tables with computers and room for laptops, these were occupied before the single tables.

Williams did not move the instructional design to library, but instead turned the space into a student run space with a helpdesk and maker space. Students need a space to be noisy and messy. Leigh Keller said

the technology help desk is a must have, cannot function without one. The Williams College Librarians found this feature to be extremely beneficial, taking the burden off them while keeping the students happy; students were helped without leaving the building.

Tim Babasade mentioned features that would be worthwhile addition to our Library. These features include: scanners, stations for students to scan to themselves, banks of printers versus one printer, locks on printers to prevent "home repair", power at every seat to eliminate students unplugging computers to charge their phones.

VP DaSilva requested feedback from the TF on the matrix.

The following were suggested as additional items for the matrix:

Comment/helpful information section should be added to the matrix

Category for features

Increased use of natural light

Furniture/felt walls

Proposed new space for commuter space

Remove special collections from the library section, it is identified in another section

Study carrels or stations

Individual workspace with frosted glass for privacy

Use of frosted glass was nice, privacy but use of natural light

Each category should be ranked alone and not as a cumulative score

Joe Connell questioned the intent behind a satellite Public Safety office. Trustee Vallario responded that the addition can support longer hours and assist with a second entrance. VP DaSilva also advised that if Public Safety is relocated further from the center of campus this satellite location would be a student services area of Public Safety in the center of campus. There has also been discussion at the Board level of having a second surveillance area.

Clarification of "brings energy to space" was requested, which Roark Atkinson responded with the following: it is a new kind of energy (dynamic/collaborative) versus just additional people just sitting in chairs; things such as the maker space, glass boards to visually draw on surfaces, not being a static space. The area should be open to all, inviting and comfortable. Williams College had a 60% increase in usage with people staying for longer periods.

VP DaSilva informed the TF that there will be a number of engineers and mechanical visits in the coming next week. The visits will provide an assessment of the building and the envelope to be used by the architects to help in the design process. The assessments are informational for architects and CPT and will not be shared with the TF. A brief update may be provided later in regards to redesign. VP DaSilva reminded the TF that they do not need to discuss how much money go into repairing structural issues and what it will take away from new area and renovated size. The budget matters are those for the CPT, not the TF. The cost of remediation will change based on the design of the building.

The architects will be coming back to campus around the week of March 20 to meet with club presidents and other stakeholders.

VP DaSilva assured the group that the Sports Authority site has not been rented and the Library will in fact remain on campus. Dean Siecke asked that a communication be sent out dispelling the rumors of rats and mushrooms in the Library. President Mercer agreed that a communication should go out and asked that the Library work with him to craft a message.