
Guest Speakers: Conner Lawless, EAB and Lucy Rush, University Library

**EAB Presentation**

- Mr. Lawless began the discussion by saying that he had been talking to Dr. Wojtowicz and Dr. Porter about ways to not be duplicative but additive. He gave a presentation showing ways in which the EAB system could benefit graduate program users. He cited the following benefits:
  - It is a good tool for searching for and communicating with students, so users have more agility to communicate.
  - Users can identify student groups to reach out to and save the groups.
  - It can be used to see enrollment history.
  - You can use it to look for students who are not performing well.
  - You can use the watch list function. Watch lists can also be saved and filtered.
  - Texts sent to students that are not deliverable will automatically send as emails.
  - The Conversations tab – Saves messages sent to students through the EAB system.
  - He pointed out that filters cannot be shared, but it is a great idea that they will look into.
- Mr. Lawless provided his email address to the Council and said to please send him any questions or suggestions that might arise. His email clawless@eab.com.

**Library Survey Results**

- Lucy Rush discussed the results of a survey that was distributed to graduate program directors and to graduate students.
- Graduate program directors received a 2 question survey with open text boxes for responses.
  - GPDS’ perceptions were related to the need to find things like databases and other resources, access to specifically mentioned journals, and understanding the research process.
  - They suggested workshop topics on the following
    - How to use databases effectively
    - Conducting a literature search
    - Using End Note or other citation software
- The graduate student survey had eight questions and there were approximately 125 participants.
  - The survey was posted in University Announcements.
  - Newer students were more responsive.
  - What they currently use:
    - Library Data Bases
    - Google Scholar
    - End Note or similar software
    - ILL, Chat, and one-on-one assistance
  - Perceived needs:
    - Access to journals or certain books
• Research Assistance
  • Training in citation management
  o Preferred methods of support
    • Online, self-directed training
    • One-on-one assistance
  o Point of need
    • First four weeks to midpoint
  o Quiet space for graduate students is needed.

• Next Steps
  o More online self-directed training
  o Creation of subject based research guides for every college by the end of the summer
  o Library liaisons to contact graduate program directors for feedback
  o Creation of online tutorials for graduate students
  o Increased investigation needs to be done to see what graduate students want in order to make sure they give them services they will use
  o Greater marketing of one-on-one assistance
  o Workshops on End Note and Library Instruction will continue

• Ultimately, graduate students were satisfied. The Library plans to continue to do the satisfaction surveys regularly.

• Graduate Space – There is a space planning team in the Library and they are hoping to be able to provide space for graduate students and faculty. There is discussion about consolidating the two service desks.

Approval of Minutes from Thursday, January 26, 2017

• Minutes were approved as submitted.

Length of Doctoral Programs

• Dr. Wojtowicz advised Council that he had gotten feedback from the VCGS group regarding the number of credit hours for doctoral programs. There was actually a variety in the lengths of the programs, for example:
  o Virginia Tech – 60 credits
  o VCU – 30 credits
  o William and Mary doesn’t know their minimum, but VIMS has 42.
  o Most of the other reporting schools had 42 and we are at 48.

• What is the right size?
• Do we need a workshop on what is required for a doctoral degree?