

Librarians Assembly Meeting

Thursday, August 29, 2014 9:00 am

Learning Center, Swem Library

Present: Rebecca Beasley (Education), Chris Byrne (Law), Stephen Clark (Swem), Debbie Cornell (Swem), Troy Davis (Swem), Kathleen DeLaurenti (Swem), Fred Dingley (Law), Jay Gaidmore (Swem), Paul Hellyer (Law), Martha Higgins (Swem), Trish Kearns (Swem), Mack Lundy (Swem), Natasha McFarland (Swem), Katherine McKenzie (Swem), Mary Molineux (Swem), Jennifer Sekula (Law), Jean Sibley (Swem), Kim Sims (Swem), Linda Tesar (Law), Michael Umberger (Law), Alan Zoellner (Swem)

Librarians Assembly President, Debbie Cornell, called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Purpose of this meeting, as announced, was to discuss the future of the Librarians Assembly. Debbie Cornell, President of the Assembly, shared the results of a survey of W&M Librarians concerning opinions about whether or not the Assembly would continue.

Discussion:

The Librarians Assembly began in 2000 as an independent advocacy group to for professional librarians to address issues relevant to librarians in any of the W&M libraries including Swem (and its branches), Law, Education, Business, VIMS and Richard Bland. Since its inception, the organization has addressed issues such as faculty status, salaries, benefits (vs those of the teaching faculty), university employee designation, and, most recently, librarian ranks. Recently, members of Swem Library's Dean's Cabinet have also discussed involving the Assembly in the development of a rubric to be used in the evaluation of professional library staff.

While many of the issues are "Swem-centric" given the large number of Swem employees in relation to the entire group, several non-Swem members spoke about the advantages to all campus librarians in being aware of and involved in discussions which could also be pertinent to their own positions. Attendance at these meetings was also recognized as a good networking and educational opportunity for staff who otherwise would not be in the same room. More frequent meetings and a more focused sense of purpose should reinvigorate the group and make participation more meaningful and productive.

Members present voted unanimously with a show of hands to continue the organization.

Officers for FY2014-15:

President	Debbie Cornell
Vice-President/President-Elect	Kathleen DeLaurenti
Secretary	Jean Sibley

The executive committee will meet to determine organizational structure and to review by-laws. They will call another meeting of the Assembly in 2 months.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine McKenzie