

Friends of the University Library (FOL)
Minutes, February 19th, 2021
Zoom Conference

The meeting was called to order by Bob at 10:04 a.m.

Present: Dean Mark Stover, Annette Besnilian, Vickie Campbell, Iris Caplan, Joyclyn Dunham, Gina Flores, Bob Gohstand, Jamie Johnson, Darnesa Morris, Jim Parker, Marcy Rothman, and Rita Streimer.

The minutes of the Jan. meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Announcements:

Mark announced the one Black History month event left which is cosponsored by the Library. Cornell West will be the speaker of the event on Feb. 26th via Zoom but you need to register in advance. You can find the link on the Library's web page.

Mark also mentioned the online display of books that deal with Black History month that you can find on the Library's website and the ongoing virtual exhibit of movies set in Los Angeles curated by Special Collections and Archives. This month's virtual exhibit is featuring the movie "The Boys n the Hood." Students who register have a chance to win \$50 Amazon gift card if they answer questions about the movie.

Mark also announced the Bonnie Campbell Endowment in collaboration with the Library and others is sponsoring this year's Pi Day which will be on March 11th instead of March 14th due to the 14th of March landing on the weekend. Pi Day will be virtual this year due to the pandemic.

The Library remains closed for now due to the virus but, in the last couple of days, the Los Angeles County Public Health has issued new guidelines for higher education including academic libraries and universities. Due to the increase in vaccinations and the decrease in number of infections, deaths and hospitalizations, LA County is loosening up their restrictions for higher education and giving permission to libraries to open with limited capacity. So, we are probably looking at about 25% capacity on the first floor only, and the leadership team at the Library is looking at re-opening the Library for students for study space. The re-opening will be about a month away which is a real change from what we anticipated during the last few months. Stay tuned and Mark will give out more information as more decisions are made.

The Library locker system will be available to CSUN students and faculty by March 1st to use.

The ASRS project is almost done within the next week or so, and we are very excited since this has been a 10-year project of hardware upgrades and installment of new safety systems on the 30-year old ASRS system.

Bob mentioned he enjoyed listening to the speaker Gary Powers, Jr and Rita agreed. We had a lot of RSVP's but only 25 people showed up via Zoom. It would be nice if we could get more people to attend future speaker events. Gary Powers, Jr. mentioned he would be glad to return to speak.

Bob is creating a new scholarship with a lower GPA to see what happens. The minimum GPA will be at 2.75 and at this time the new scholarship is experimental.

Joyclyn asked Bob if he had received the applications yet and he said yes, he had despite having to change his password for his CSUN campus account at the same time. Jim asked if there were only 13 applicants with 24 scholarships and Joyclyn said yes. The deadline for applicants has passed so there will be no more applicants but we will have multiple scholarships for each applicant.

New Business:

Marcy had seen an article in a local paper which was about the Thousand Oaks FOL selling books online, and she reached out to that FOL for more information about how they set up and sell their books online. She received a long email with a lot of good information about how they are setting up their system. Marcy discussed this information with Mark before going to the Bob. Mark said the Foundation has no problem but it would be up to the FOL Board. Annette discussed the issues she has had with selling their marmalade online, foundation account vs cash services account. Bob mentioned that we may need more volunteers to sell through E-Bay due to their requirements. Marcy said she was thinking of us setting up a virtual bookstore but she needs to investigate the cost and complexity in setting up a virtual bookstore especially when it comes to shipping/delivering books to the customer. Bob asked Marcy if she could put together a package of pros and cons of having a virtual bookstore. Marcy said she could do that but she would want to make sure that the Board would be interested to do this before she starts her research. Marcy asked the Board if they would like her to continue her research into setting up a virtual bookstore. Iris said she would support further research into this. Various ideas for reaching out to sell our donated books online including possibly a jar of Matador Marmalade with certain sales. Bob asked Marcy to go ahead and do more research. This discussion is tabled until the next meeting.

Old Business:

Mark did a power point presentation about current Library fundraising projects that the Library has been working on for the past few years. Mark listed the points of pride for the University Library which are the Learning Commons, the Creative Media Studio, the Tom and Ethel Bradley Center, the Gohstand Reading room and Notable Collections which we want to communicate about to faculty and students and the community at large.

Points of Pride:

- The Learning Commons was built 8 years ago, it provides a welcoming space for collaborative work for the students to work as groups or individually and the area is multifunctional and inspirational and allows social interaction.
- The Creative Media Studio is a place for students to edit video, digital and audio projects and borrow the equipment needed for their projects and 3D printing. There is a recording studio which students can use. The latest aspect is students can use virtual reality.
- The Tom and Ethel Bradley Center has over 1 million images produced by Los Angeles based Black photographers over the last 70 years and they document the social and cultural lives of not only of the Los Angeles Black community but also many suburban

communities throughout Southern California, and they also have a section concerning the border region of Mexico and Latin America and lots of oral histories and audio and video interviews of Los Angeles Black communities.

Notable Library Collections:

- The University Library Map Collection, one of the largest map collections on the west coast, holds about 400,000 government and historical maps and other types of geospatial data.
- The National Center on Deafness Collection, one of the nation's largest collections of deaf related materials.
- Notable Library Collections in our archives:
- The Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender, one of the largest and finest collections on the study of human sexuality throughout history in the nation. Vern Bullough and Bonnie Bullough were CSUN faculty and Vern Bullough was the president of the Faculty Senate at one time.
- The International Guitar Research Archive otherwise known as IGRA, it is the world's largest collection of music, history, photographs, correspondence and recordings related to the guitar. Ron Purcell, who was a CSUN faculty member, founded the archive.
- The Old China Hands Archive is the largest collection in the world that documents the experiences of foreigners and refugees who lived and worked in China before 1950. It contains thousands of documents, photographs, diaries, newspapers and oral histories and it was founded by our own president of the FOL Bob Gohstand.
- The Gohstand Reading room emphasizes the importance of leisurely reading and adding new books to select from.

Fundraising:

- We have a key initiative to convert the Creative Media Studio into a full-fledged maker space and the price tag for that is to create an endowment of 2.5 million dollars.
- We have another initiative which is to build a Digital Innovation and Scholarship Hub otherwise known as DISH and that has a price tag of 3 million dollars. We were promised some help with building DISH from Academic Affairs prior to the pandemic; however, we need to postpone this project because of Covid-19. But we really need to raise some money for this endowment for DISH.
- The Living Writer's Series Endowment would create an income stream to bring emerging poets and writers to CSUN for special lectures and readings.
- We want to endow the Tom and Ethel Bradley Center with \$2.5 million which would create an income stream for perpetuity for staffing and internships.

- We would like to create an endowed Curator of Special Collections and Archives which would cost \$1 million.
- This was a short presentation of some of our current projects but we also have other projects. We are always working on raising money for our other projects like scholarships, future FOL programming and other initiatives including the Jewish Federation in Los Angeles Community Relations Committee archive which some members of the Friends board have donated to.

Mark asked if anyone had questions concerning his presentation.

Jim asked about the process of the scholarship committee meeting and Joyclyn answered that question. Marcy volunteered to be part of the scholarship committee. The scholarship committee discussed what date to meet. Joyclyn told the committee she needed their decisions by March 5th.

Closing Remarks

The next FOL meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 19th at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.