

# Memorandum



To: Anna Gold, University Librarian

Date: June 6, 2013

Re: Annual SLAC Report

The Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) was created to insure that the voices of the students are heard by Kennedy Library. This year, SLAC has continued its commitment to the student body of Cal Poly. SLAC has accomplished a lot in the last academic year and we continue to grow in terms of amount and scope of our plans. We created the first ever photo contest, which will help make the library a more personal, student-oriented environment. We once again created a successful and informative survey that received a turn-out which reached a large portion of the Cal Poly student population. Moreover, SLAC continued to advise the library in a number of different areas, such as collaborative technology and the spending of the Student Success Fee. Overall, SLAC made significant strides this year and helped make large contributions to the library.

SLAC's Coziness Committee is charged with helping better the overall atmosphere within the library encouraging it to arrange the space more effectively. Last year, the committee worked to help improve the furniture in the library and brighten up the atrium. However, the committee decided to go a different direction this year. The committee helped plan the first ever bi-annual library photo contest. The contest was designed to add student-submitted photos to help brighten the space within the library and support the artistic side of Cal Poly students. SLAC believes that the library belongs to the students, and by allowing students to decorate it, they can make the library more of their own personal place. The contest had three categories; Landscape, SLO Life, and Learn by Doing, all of which were created to represent the Cal Poly student experience. Through advertising on social media and all across the Cal Poly campus, the contest was a great success with over 70 photos submitted. After a screening and judging process, 13 were recognized at a reception attended by students and the photographers. All the photos were put on Facebook and received a large amount of views and likes by

current students and alumni. By next fall, a number of these photos will be hung throughout the library in select spaces on large picture frames. These photos will continue SLAC's mission to add a lot of extra color and beauty to the library, while making students feel that the library is their own space.

The Student Library Advisory Council released their Winter 2013 survey to 20% of the student body in January. The survey revealed that 45% of the respondents visit the Kennedy Library more than 3 times a week, solidifying the library's reputation as a essential place where student can further academic success. An overwhelming 90% of students said the current collaboration tools and technology the library offers meets their needs; however, they would like to see more designated collaboration spaces open up. Students also voiced a desire to increase the number of course reserves available to them, most likely due to the overwhelming cost of textbooks. Lastly, and as anticipated, the students spoke out for the addition of more seats in the Kennedy Library, so it will be easier for more students to use this great resource that exists on campus. With the information gained from the survey, SLAC created an info-graphic, to be placed on the library website, detailing this data.

SLAC is currently determining what projects to work on next year. SLAC plans to create another survey in the fall that will help address specific areas of need within the library. The Coziness Committee will continue to beautify the library through a number of different projects, like renovating the reference desk and quiet study spaces. SLAC will also work to increase the library and council's presence on social media platforms. As a whole, we will also work to address the needs of Cal Poly students and advise the library on any subject given to us. SLAC's continual growth as an organization has helped us make the student experience within the library more personal and rewarding for them. Next year, SLAC will continue this trend and help the library grow as a student driven institution.

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