

## **Bookstore Advisory Council Meeting**

**October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**1:30 PM**

**Auxiliary Services Conference Room**

### **MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Joseph Martin, Lois Scott, Ozzie Vazquez, Margaret Partyka, Tom Van Schoor, Claudia Ramirez, Mladen Renier, JC Escalante

**Members Absent:** Kristine Webb, George Candler

**Others Present:** Vince Smyth (Auxiliary Services), Dennis McNulty (Auxiliary Services), Steve Moreau (Follett), Lee Cobb (Follett).

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM by Joseph Martin (Chair).

1. This being the first meeting of the 2010-11 Bookstore Advisory Council, all individuals at this meeting introduced themselves and noted their department and Association affiliation on campus.
2. Joseph Martin noted the by-laws state that the objective of the Bookstore Advisory Council is to advise the President on all matters impacting the Bookstore and its utilization by the University Community. Committee members felt this was an appropriate objective.
3. The Minutes of the February 15, 2010 meeting were approved as written.
4. Council members took a few minutes to review the bylaws. There was general consensus that these are appropriate and no changes are necessary.
5. The bylaws note that the Council's officers will be a Chair and a Vice-Chair and that the Vice-Chair will succeed the Chair. The President has appointed Joseph Martin as the Chair but a Vice-Chair has not been appointed yet. Joseph Martin recommended Tom Van Schoor and there were no other nominations. Tom's nomination will be forwarded to the President for approval.
6. Vince Smyth informed the Council regarding his role as the contract manager for the University, serving as the direct contact for Follett, the third-party vendor that operates the bookstore. Typically he reports to this Council on any contract issues and on any facility issues. At this time, there are no issues to report. Vince did ensure the Council knew that Follett not only operates the main bookstore in the Student Union but also a small venue in the University Center mostly to provide IPTM materials to police officers undertaking training.

7. Steve Moreau updated the committee on Bookstore operations and sales. Bookstore sales have risen 8.6 percent from 08/09 to 09/10. Sales increased for textbooks, used books and text rentals. By either buying a used text or renting a book instead of buying a new book, UNF students saved \$1.5 million. First Quarter Sales for this fiscal year are also up from last year, but clothing and gift sales have been flat. Inventory levels have increased dramatically, meaning there is more selection of product available for sale.

Joseph Martin asked Steve about the type of feedback from students regarding the experience at the new Bookstore. Steve said that he is waiting on the results of 2 satisfaction surveys taken this past year relating to the Union and the Bookstore. Steve added that he would email the results of these satisfaction surveys to the committee when he receives them.

Lee Cobb reported in regards to text rentals. Rental titles have almost doubled from last year to this year. Faculty can request books as rentals and this has increased in the last semester. Lee stated that from his experience, the request process took 3 days. Requests from small publishers have even been granted, and textbooks with CD's are welcome as long as they can be reused.

Joseph announced that Lee was quoted in an article about text rentals in USA Today in August, 2010.

Steve added that there are numerous book renters in the market place and one of the advantages of renting from the bookstore is the fact that you can highlight write in books without extra charge.

Vince Smyth pointed out that one other advantage of the rental program is that students with financial aid can obtain more books as the out-of-pocket cost is cheaper for each book.

Lee added that students were buying more of their course materials because of the savings from renting their books. One student saved more than \$400 in one semester.

Lee also reported on the E-book reader site called CaféScribe.

Several textbooks can be packaged to form a custom textbook, and this can be sold at a less expensive price.

Lois Scott mentioned that the Music Department had tried to purchase the "Jazz Fundamentals" textbook recently, but there was no availability. Lee said that he would check for availability because it should be available.

Steve announced that the Bookstore will be holding a sidewalk sale Friday and Saturday, October 15-16. Most clothing and other items are 20% off the regular price.

8. Renier Mladen informed that SGA President is planning a week of blue and gray to promote UNF spirit. Margaret Partyka suggested that this should be extended campus-wide.

Vince Smyth announced that Steve Moreau won Follett's Manager of the Year award in the Higher Education group of Follett bookstores. This is quite prestigious, being awarded to only one manager from all 884 stores.

Vince added that minutes of previous council meetings can be found on the UNF President's website.

[http://www.unf.edu/president/Presidential\\_Appointed\\_Committees.aspx](http://www.unf.edu/president/Presidential_Appointed_Committees.aspx)

9. The next meeting of the Bookstore Advisory Council will be early in the 2011 Spring term.