

Learning Commons Council

PURPOSE:

Forsyth Library has functioned as a “learning commons” since 2007. The purpose of the council is to bring together a coalition of partners and advisors to provide recommendations on the blend of human expertise, technology, spaces, and programs to support student and faculty learning and research. The overall purpose of the learning commons is to develop students’ expertise in communication, information and digital literacy, technology, creativity, and learning or study skills.

The Learning Commons Council functions as a standing advisory body to work with the Dean of Forsyth Library to accomplish the following:

- Advise the Dean and, through the Dean, the Provost and Academic Council on the creation of effective learning spaces and technologies in the learning commons.
- Recommend those services and spaces that should be incorporated into a future plan for the renovation of Forsyth Library & Learning Commons.
- Recommend specific services and programs that should be implemented to engage students in creativity, critical thinking, and information and digital/technical literacy.
- Review learning commons’ support and help services for students and recommend ways to improve assistance.
- Advocate for ongoing improvements that support formal and informal learning experiences for students.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Officers
 1. Chaired by the Learning Commons Coordinator as the presiding officer who shall administer all business of the council.
 2. Secretary selected by the council membership to record and transmit proceedings and assist the Chairperson with other correspondence and meeting arrangements as requested. All committee agendas, minutes and important documents shall be stored in the assigned SharePoint team site. The secretary will submit an annual report summarizing the committee achievements and recommendations to the Provost at least two weeks before the end of the spring semester.
- Ex-officio
 1. Learning Commons Coordinator (Chair)
 2. Dean of the Library
- Faculty representatives
 3. One from each College
- Collaborators
 4. Director of the Writing Center
 5. Director of the Institute for New Media Studies
 6. Student Affairs 1

7. Technology 1
8. International Student Services 1
9. Kelly Center 1
10. Appointee from the MakerSpace 1
11. Library 1
12. SGA 1-2 (not counted towards quorum)

HOW APPOINTED: Deans make recommendations for membership from their colleges; senate presidents make recommendations from their individual senates; division/departmental leaders make recommendations for their organizations

ROTATION: Representatives to the Council from functional areas within the Learning Commons such as the MakerSpace and Writing Center will serve in an ongoing capacity at the pleasure of leadership in each college or division. Representatives from the faculty will be appointed to three-year terms, limited to a maximum of 6 consecutive years or two 3-year terms. Student and faculty senate representatives will be appointed annually.

WHEN APPOINTED: Members will be appointed in the spring semester and take their seats at the first meeting of the subsequent fall semester.

MEETING FREQUENCY: The council shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the committee, meeting at least monthly during each academic semester.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE Quorum shall be met when a simple majority, that is 50% of the committee plus one, is present. No business can be conducted without a quorum present.