

LAB minutes Fall Meeting

November 1, 2013

Eastern Florida State College

LAB held a Fall Continuing Education Workshop on Friday, Nov. 1, 2013 from 11-1 p.m. at the Melbourne campus library of Eastern Florida State College.

The theme of the workshop was "Seasons change: Dealing with Transition in Libraries". The hosts for the programs included Kelly Sparks, President of LAB, and Norma Rudmik, Librarian from EFSC. There were 15 members attending the workshop.

President Kellie opened the session with welcoming remarks, and thanked EFSC for their hospitality. Kellie began her talk with how libraries have evolved over time. She started with ancient libraries, such as those in Egypt. Then continued to early libraries, such as those privately owned, and through to modern and contemporary libraries. She also mentioned virtual libraries, as well as the increase in digital information in recent years. All these changes have transformed the concept and usage of libraries. This discussion led to the introduction of the guest speaker, Norma Rudmik from EFSC.

Norma explained the tremendous changes that EFSC library has undergone in the last few years. Not only has the name of the college changed, but the physical location as well. Their library was moved from an upstairs level, large spacious area, to a downstairs level, with approximately half its' the size. This meant, according to Norma, that about 18,000 thousand books had to be withdrawn. Wooden tables and chairs, used for years, had to be left behind as the university was updating their image, and new ones ordered. The college's name was changed from Brevard Community College, a two year institution, to Eastern Florida State College, a four year institution, with more degrees added. The time frame for withdrawing and moving was very brief, with construction crews swirling all around, as the new space was made ready, with updating in the electrical and technological field as well. A total of 11 classrooms replaced the old upstairs library. A slideshow of the physical changes was shown.

After her talk, Norma and her staff invited LAB members on a tour of the new library. Offices had been moved around, and quiet rooms had been added, more computers were added. Also changes made in the way purchases were made. Now more e-books are purchased for classroom sets or reference copies. Due to budget cuts, staffing hours were reduced on the weekends, and more online reference help is now used.

Refreshments were then served in the staff lounge area. Kellie held a raffle of prizes given away to members. They included movie and food certificates.

The meeting was dismissed around 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary for LAB

Lynn Bennett