

# STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEMBERS //

Molly Ackerman '17  
Michelle Chen '19  
Cara Dietz '19  
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Alana Kepler '19

Vivian Wang '19  
Maria Wood AC '17, **co-chair**  
Kim Zhang '19

## TOP 10 // **WHAT WE HEARD\***...

- **Wayfinding inside and outside of the building is important.** Currently the building is difficult to navigate and items inside the spaces don't seem to fit together. The building complex acts as an obstruction to moving throughout the campus. The building itself needs to feel more integrated. Each space and center needs to flow and fit into the others.
- **Accessibility needs to be integrated into the design and the space in a beautiful and natural way.** There also needs to be multiple ways of movement throughout the building to enable people of differing abilities to function in the library in an equal manner.
- **Heritage and nature.** Students feel that spaces that **feel natural and have better lighting** are the spaces they love. Other spaces that are beloved are those with **history**. Rooms such as the periodicals room (Collocott), reading room (Friends of the Library), Caverno room, and ¾ West had a **purposed atmosphere and identity** along with long wooden tables and brass lamps that gave the space a feel of heritage and importance.
- **Holistic view.** Students felt that the library needed to see them through the whole process of learning; procrastination, rest, and long intensive hours of study. The new library needs to have multiple spaces that cater to the different stages a student may be in. If the student will be in the library for 10 hours, they would like a place to sleep or take a break, a study area fit to their needs, and healthy food to keep their energy up.
- **Food and nutrition are very important.** Cafe or no cafe, students would like to see healthy snack options such as cheese and crackers, hummus, fruit, etc along with beverages such as coffee, tea, and hot/cold water.
- **Outlets and access to technology are essential to working at any stage and for any length of time.** There is a current lack of power outlets in the library, which needs to be fixed in the new spaces.
- **Quiet spaces are very important to students.** Noise bleed into quiet study areas is a concern.
- **Students hold books and browsability very dear,** expressing a deep desire for to the ability to wander through the stacks, get lost among books, make serendipitous discoveries, and explore Smith's vaunted collections.
- **Greater visibility of diversity in topics and authors,** highlighting oppressed narratives and non-hegemonic literature, actively opposing Eurocentrism.
- **Building practices and ongoing services reflecting a serious commitment to sustainability and social justice,** with a minimal or even net negative carbon footprint, union labor, and responsibly sourced building materials and furnishings.

*\*Feedback, comments and ideas gathered through Student Advisory Committee led: house teas, tabling in the Campus Center, comment boards in the libraries, informal conversations with students outside of regular sessions/teas/etc., and in some cases through individual e-mails.*

(YOUR COMMENTS)