Dotson thanked the Board for sharing their time and input. Dotson introduced Program Chair, Scott Glass, Chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Professions. Dr. Glass welcomed the board.

Program Coordinator Kaye Dotson asked everyone to introduce themselves. Dotson introduced the program’s visiting scholar, Dr. Fadekemi Oyewusi, library science professor from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. Dr. Oyewusi will be a member of the program faculty for the 2018-2019 academic year researching and teaching in the area of school librarianship.

Dotson gave an update on the program.

- Extensive work on the reaccreditation effort is ongoing. A Blackboard site has been created to store the work being done on the standards.
- There are 252 students in the program as of this semester. Admissions are keeping pace with maintaining the size of the student body.
- Dotson expressed some concern for the outlook of the job market, but she has information that our graduates are finding jobs.

Dotson announced the retirement of three members of the faculty: Dr. John Harer, Dr. Jamie Jones and Dr. Elaine Yontz. Two search committees have been formed, one to replace a fixed term position that has been vacant since summer, and one to hire replacements for the three tenured faculty announced at the meeting.

Marson reported on the ALA Student Chapter activities. An online meeting was held in October with two students who interned in Paris, France, this summer as guest speakers. The student chapter president is Nicholas Bambach, who was unable to attend the board meeting.

Yontz introduced Dr. Fadekemi Oyewusi and how she came to be our visiting scholar. Dr. Yontz met her at the International Association of School Librarianship conference held in Los Angeles in 2017. Oyewusi spoke to her work with the program. Her research and teaching interests include bibliotherapy. She has visited a number of local schools and the North Carolina School Library Media Association’s annual conference in October.

Dotson and Marson provided information on the program’s efforts in support of the university’s Global Initiative. A summer abroad course in Portugal was offered in 2017 and a summer abroad
course in Paris, France, was offered this past summer (2018). The program will offer the next summer abroad course in Florence, Italy, in 2019. For the trip to Paris, the program partnered with two American libraries and one French library. Two students interned in Paris this summer.

Dotson announced faculty awards. Dr. Al Jones received the RUSA (Reference and User Services Association) award for lifetime achievement in history and genealogy. Dr. Barbara Marson received the College of Education’s Global Initiative grant to attend the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) annual conference in Athens, Greece in 2019.

News and Accolades from the Board:

Lewis (director of ECU’s Joyner Library) has been appointed to the ALA Nominating Committee. She reminded everyone the committee seeks nominees for ALA president and councilors. Colon-Aguirre reminded everyone that self-nominations are appropriate.

Yontz announced that the Medical Library Association completed its first level of health librarianship professional development. She distributed an information sheet on the NNLM (National Network of Libraries of Medicine) and noted the network is free membership.

Vickers reported on successes in procuring funding and resources for libraries in Union County.

Harer discussed student orientation and recruitment efforts. Harer reported on the success of virtual meetings. Board members expressed a positive view of “Face to Face” venues. Harer agreed to contact Lewis about holding information sessions with Joyner Library staff.

Dotson encouraged board members to check-out the new awards and scholarships plaques in the first floor office hallways.

Current Business:
Board member advice and input:

Hill (Pitt County media specialist): MLS students need more emphasis on technology (software and hardware) and Web master training. There was a concern with how students developed familiarity and comfort with learning new software. Marson wondered if students in the school concentration needed training that was different from the concentrations in public and academic libraries. A brief discussion on this ensued.

Davis (media specialist and teacher, Hertford County, NC) noted that public libraries often have to help patrons with basic computer skills such as setting up an email account. It was mentioned that dispositions were an important concern in training and instructions in all concentrations.

Lewis indicated a need for training in applications design services, database management and development. Dunning (MLS student representative) suggested the program needs a partnership with the instructional technology program with attention to information literacy instruction.
Dunning also suggested that the program create separate technology courses for each concentration or partner with College of Education programs doing similar instruction.

Gerikos (Pitt County Media Specialist Supervisor) suggested that there was a need for instruction on digital citizenship, i.e. judging information on the Web. This sparked a number of ideas on technology training needs. Dunning and Hill indicated that there was a need for training on coding and coding systems (e.g. XML, Python). Miller (Farmville Public Library Director) also suggested instruction on database management and encoding. Gathercole (BHM Regional Library youth services librarian) noted a need for training on Smartboard technology.

Harer asked Lewis if she thought there was a need for an information science presence in the MLS curriculum. Lewis indicated there were needs in the areas of patron data management and ethical management of patron data, digital science, SmartCity, archives and records management, and digitizing resources. After some discussion, Lewis also suggested Makerspaces were projects for database management.

Dunning suggested that the LIBS 6048 Collection Development courses needed more emphasis on digital resources. Gerikos agreed.

Gerikos thought that facilities planning should be included in the management course (LIBS 6031). Gathercole agreed that facilities planning was an area to be included in the management course, but noted that it should include planning facilities for special needs populations.

Miller stated that there was a need for a course or instruction on library advocacy for public librarianship.

Harer and Dotson asked the board for suggestions on offering certificate programs, seminars, and/or continuing education courses. Lewis mentioned library “juice” courses (the Library Juice Academy courses) as a model or offerings on library management. Dunning and Miller agreed.

Gerikos made a plea for connecting with principals to instruct them on the importance of school libraries and media specialists, and the value of independent reading.

**Other Business:**
Dunning expressed appreciation to the program for offering the archives and records management course and noted that the program kept its promise to offer such a course. Dunning also said that the program should be encouraging students to publish, present at conferences, hold poster sessions at ALISE and co-publish/co-present with faculty.

Gerikos announced that Pitt County schools have an elementary media specialist opening.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting date is to be announced at a later date.

Submitted by: John B. Harer