



Instruction

Association of
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Section

NEWSLETTER

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From the Desk of the Instruction Section Chair



The months since we gathered in Chicago for the 2005 ALA Annual Conference have been busy ones indeed for the Instruction Section. Committees are busy planning events for the Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference in 2006. Task forces are completing projects and preparing publications. The Executive Committee is focused on assisting and supporting all of our committees and task forces to be as efficient and effective as possible.

At the same time, the Executive Committee is continuing the work of implementing recommendations from and responses to the IS of the Future Task Force Report in order to create a dynamic and nimble future for the Instruction Section.

Actions include:

- Creating the Discussion Group Steering Committee and a plan for Current Issue Discussion Groups that are responsive to the interests of IS members.
- Pursuing publication of a new book (tentatively) titled *Information Literacy Instruction Handbook*, which will update and consolidate two former popular IS publications — *Sourcebook for Bibliographic Instruction* and *Learning to Teach*.
- Charging the Program Planning Manual Review Task Force to update the *Preconference and Con-*

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IS Orientation at 2006 Midwinter Meeting

Getting Involved in the Instruction Section

Saturday, January 21, 2006

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

Whether you are new to IS or library instruction, or want to become more involved in IS activities and information literacy and instruction issues, make plans now to attend the IS Orientation session!

Find out more about IS Committees and projects at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio.

You'll learn about the structure of IS and how to get involved in IS activities.

Following a brief introduction to the benefits of being an active IS member, attendees will have the opportunity to circulate around the room and learn more about the work and projects of the various committees.

Join us at this great session. IS has many opportunities for you to get involved!

Claudia Ruediger
Chair, Membership Committee

Information Literacy in the Disciplines Unveiled

Across college and university campuses, the phrase “information literacy” has begun to pervade conversations and while there is still the occasional quizzical look over exactly what this phrase means, there is a undeniable movement towards attempting to incorporate these ideas into higher education curricula. The question becomes: Where do we begin? Some have already taken steps to answer that question as well as to provide some standards to help faculty and librarians begin. The Teaching Methods Committee is working to bring together these standards along with other materials in the form of the Information Literacy in the Disciplines Web site, available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/projectsacrl/infolitdisciplines/>.

This resource was unveiled at a highly successful ACRL pre-conference “Information Literacy in the Disciplines: Librarian/Faculty Collaboration for 21st Century Research Skills” (co-sponsored by ACRL’s Science and Technology Section and IS). The Web site is designed to assist librarians and teaching faculty in the integration of information literacy into the disciplines

The resource contains links and citations to information literacy standards and curricula developed by accrediting agencies, professional associations, and institutions of higher education. Organized by discipline, each page is separated into two sections: 1) Standards or Guidelines from Accrediting Agencies & Professional Associations;

and 2) Curricula, Articles, and Presentations. In order to make this Web site a success, we need your help in identifying standards from accrediting organizations and professional associations as well as articles and curricula that address the need for information literacy integration into specific disciplines. Send your suggestions of additions to the Web site to Anna Van Scoyoc, Chair, Teaching Methods Committee, at avansco@emory.edu. The committee will review all suggestions according to the project’s criteria for inclusion.

We thank you in advance for helping to make this Web site a success.

*Beth Ashmore, Former Chair,
Teaching Methods Committee*

PRIMO Database Accepts Four New Instruction Projects

The Emerging Technologies in Instruction Committee announces the acceptance of the following projects into the PRIMO: Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online database.

- “NetTrail, the University of California Santa Cruz’s Information Literacy Tutorials,” Deborah Murphy, Ann Hubble, Ken Lyons, Christy Hightower, & Christy Caldwell, UC Santa Cruz. <http://nettrail.ucsc.edu/>
- “How to Read a Newspaper,” Sylvia M. DeSantis, Jiyeon Ryu, Deborah Cheney and Ellysa Cahoy, Penn State University Libraries. <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/instruction/minutesmodule/index.html>
- “CINAHL Tutorial,” Pamela Sherwill-Navarro and Beth Layton, University of Florida Health Science Center Libraries. <http://www.library.health.ufl.edu/help/CINAHL/index.htm>
- “DISCUS (Developing Information Skills & Competence for University Students),” Detlev Bieler, Thomas Hapke, Oliver Marahrens, University Library of the Hamburg Institute of Technology. <http://discus.tu-harburg.de/login.php> (Note: Select “English” link to view tutorial in English)

For more information, visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/webpages/emerging-tech/primo/index.htm> or contact Mark Szarko at mszarko@uwb.edu or Susan A. Vega Garcia at savega@iastate.edu, Co-Chairs, Emerging Technologies in Instruction.



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From the Desk of the Chair, *continued from page 1*

ference Program Planning Manual to reflect current practice and introduce efficiencies where possible.

- Revising IS committee charges and membership to make them more focused and project-oriented.
- Simplifying committee and task force planning and reporting procedures.

True to our past, the future of IS promises to be busy and productive. This newsletter is of course an excellent way to learn about IS activities, as is the IS Web site (<http://www.acrl.org/is>).

We also have been granted the ability to send a twice per year electronic mail message to all IS members (honoring of course your ALA communications preferences and so, if you have indicated you do not wish such electronic mail messages, you will not receive them).

If you are attending the ALA Midwinter Meeting, we welcome you at IS meetings and events, including:

- The IS Soiree – Join an informal social hour on Friday night. A chance to meet up with known friends and make some new ones at this cash bar event with no advance charge.
- The IS Orientation – Saturday morning offers a chance for new IS members — or those who aren't new to the Section but perhaps are exploring new opportunities — to learn about IS committees and task forces, and ways to be involved with the Section.
- The Teaching Methods Brainstorming Session and the Management of Instruction Services Bright Ideas Session – Sunday offers two opportunities to join colleagues in discussing important issues for our own instruction practice.
- Committee and Task Force Meetings – Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning members of IS committees and task forces will be hard at work. Visit as many as you like (except Awards and Nominating, which have closed meetings due to the nature of their work) and learn what group you might like to volunteer to join.
- Executive Committee and Advisory Council Meetings – See your Section leaders in action on Saturday morning and Monday morning and afternoon. If you would like to raise an issue for consideration at one of these meetings, contact me (ljanicke@uiuc.edu) and we can discuss possibilities.

However you are involved in the Instruction Section, thank you for your part in making this Section a vibrant and exciting organization. I hope to meet as many members as possible during my year as chair so send me an email, call me on the phone, or watch for me at the IS events at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio!

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe
Chair, Instruction Section (2005-2006)

Discussion Forum at 2006 Midwinter

The Instruction Balance

Sunday, January 22, 2006

1:30-3:30 p.m

Location: TBA (Check the official 2006 ALA Midwinter Program)

The Teaching Methods and Education Committees are co-sponsoring the IS Discussion Forum for the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting. This Midwinter event will blend the IS Discussion Forum format and the traditional Teaching Methods Brainstorming structure.

Our discussion will focus on how librarians are maintaining a balance with increasing instructional duties without losing track of other responsibilities.

Members from the Teaching Methods Committee will initiate a conversation on strategies and avenues librarians can take to maintain their regular work duties, while instruction and information literacy become the main priorities in their departments.

There will be plenty of opportunities to share insights and experiences about the extent to which the focus on information literacy and instruction is changing our profession, how is it being addressed, and how librarians are adapting.

Be prepared to actively share, discuss, process, and formulate new ideas!

For additional information, contact Anna Van Scoyoc, Chair, Teaching Methods Committee, at avansco@emory.edu.

From the Desk of the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

More Ways to Get Involved in the Instruction Section

As Lisa reported in her Vice-Chair column of Fall 2004, the Instruction Section is one of the largest in ACRL, with a total individual and institutional membership of 3,934 members as of August 2004. Thirty-two percent of ACRL members belong to IS, making us the second-largest Section in ACRL, after ULS. I would also assert that we are exceptional in the number of active, engaged members that we have — members who have, over the past 29 years, expressed their dedication to their profession by sharing their skills and knowledge through programming, publications, and projects.

Many of these projects — such as PRIMO, the Multilingual Glossary, the Research Agenda, and others — have become important tools for our members and need to be maintained and promoted. When they are neglected and go out of date, we hear about it from the membership. We also see these tools as achievements by our members, and know that we have a responsibility to preserve them, while continuing to develop new ones that reflect the growth and changes in our profession.

Recognizing the effort involved in maintaining this collection of resources has revealed a problem in members' perceptions of what is involved in committee work. One fact reported by the IS of the Future Task Force to the Executive Committee was that members are

drawn to the topical committees (such as Teaching Methods and Instruction for Diverse Populations) because they believe they will learn more about these topics through committee work. The reality is that the face-to-face and virtual work of these committees is generally focused on those projects that were initiated by earlier iterations of the committee. Often times, the new committee membership felt "saddled" with old projects and concentrated its efforts on new projects, sometimes letting the others fall by the wayside.

The Executive Committee felt that it was important to make committee responsibilities more clear and, as a result, have revised the committees' charges accordingly. By clarifying the charges we hope that members will better understand what work each committee is expected to accomplish. These revised charges are published in full on the IS Web site, but here is the list of a committees and a description of a few of the projects or documents for which they are responsible.

Awards: Coordinates the Section's three annual awards selections and presentations.

Communication: Supports the work of the listserv administrators, Web administrators and *IS Newsletter* editor.

Conference Program Planning: Plans and executes the IS conference program at ALA Annual.

Discussion Group Steering: Calls for and selects proposals for discussion groups.

Information Literacy in the Disciplines: Collects information for and maintains the "Information Literacy in the Disciplines" and "Information Literacy Around the Globe" Web sites.

Instruction Technologies: Coordinates the "InfoTech Tips and Trends" project, updates "Classroom Control Systems" and "Tips for Developing Effective Web-based Instruction."

Instruction for Diverse Populations: Maintains the "Multilingual Glossary" and the "Library Instruction for Diverse Populations Bibliography."

Local Arrangements: Selects location and coordinates arrangements for IS social events.

Management and Leadership: Maintains "Analysis of Instructional Environment," "Proficiencies for Instruction Librarians," and the "Management Survey of Library Instruction Training Programs" documents.

Membership: Organizes membership orientations, conducts membership survey, communicates with new members and updates the membership documents.

Nominating: Solicits nominations and prepares a slate of candidates for election to the IS Executive Committee.

Peer-Reviewed Instruction Materials: Promotes and main-

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tains the PRIMO database, including “Selection Criteria” and ongoing “PRIMO Background Survey.”

Planning: Collects and summarizes information about Section activities and assists Executive Committee in revising planning process and the IS Strategic Plan.

Policy and Publications Review: Advises Executive Committee concerning policy and procedure, reviews publications of the Section and maintains “Bibliography of Publications By/About the Instruction Section,” “Publication Policy and Procedures Manual,” and the “FAQ for IS Committee Chairs”

Professional Education: Updates the IS list of “Library Instruction Courses Offered by Accredited Master’s Programs in Library and Information Studies” and “Sponsors of Continuing Education Programs for Library Instruction.”

Research and Scholarship: Maintains the “Research Agenda for Library Instruction and In-

formation Literacy” and “Bibliography of Citations related to the Research Agenda.”

Teaching Methods: Updates the list of “Teaching and Learning Information Skills Textbooks” and “The First-Year Experience and Academic Libraries” bibliography.

The Executive Committee is also creating new opportunities and mechanisms for members to propose topics for discussion,

*Revised charges
are published in
full on the
IS Web site.*

programming, projects and publications. We are increasingly using task forces to research and develop products, allowing more members to be involved virtually.

While the bulk of committee appointments will be made after ALA Midwinter 2006, and will start, as usual, in July 2006, we will be making appointments for

task forces throughout the entire year. The volunteer committee form (available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/committeevolunteer.htm>) will remain active all year and will reflect the evolving opportunities that are available to members.

We see these changes as the first steps in developing more opportunities for you to get involved in the Section and contribute your time, your ideas, and your expertise. To learn more about these opportunities, I encourage you to attend the Members Orientation Session at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio. It will take place Saturday, January 21, 10:30–11:30 a.m., location to be announced. This session is for all members, new and continuing.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at dorner@pdx.edu or call me at (503) 725-4125. I would be happy to talk with you.

*Jennifer Dorner
Vice-Chair/Chair Elect*

Call for PRIMO Submissions and Nominations

The Emerging Technologies in Instruction Committee invites you to submit your online information literacy tutorial, virtual tour, or other online library instruction project for peer-review and possible inclusion in PRIMO: Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online. PRIMO is a database of exemplary online instruction material that aims to promote and share peer-reviewed instructional materials created by librarians. Projects meeting the selection criteria are added to the database.

Submissions and nominations for PRIMO are accepted continually, but are reviewed for possible inclusion twice per year. The deadline for nominations is October 31; the deadline for submissions is November 14.

The submission and nomination forms are available from the following Web page: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/webpages/emergingtech/primo/index.htm>.

For more information about the PRIMO project, contact Mark Szarko at mszarko@uwb.edu or Susan A. Vega Garcia at savega@iastate.edu, Co-Chairs, Emerging Technologies in Instruction.

Brainstormers Tackle Google

Workshops and programs with Google and Google Scholar themes were popular at the 2005 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The Teaching Methods Committee jumped on the Google train by hosting a brainstorming session that explored how librarians can appeal to the sensibility and skills of Google users and incorporate Internet search engines that are currently available (as well as those on the horizon) into instruction. On Saturday afternoon, 41 attendees participated in a lively discussion about how to work effectively with the "Google Generation" in library instruction sessions.

Ideas included incorporating exercises that allow students to compare and contrast Internet search strategies with search strategies used in library-funded databases, as well as creating activities for students to compare and contrast the content and scope of the Google "database" versus a library-funded database. To see other ideas and comments generated at the session, please see the Brainstorming Session Summary located at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/conferencesacrl/brainstorming.htm>.

If there is a topic of special interest to you that you would like the Teaching Methods Committee to consider for future brainstorming sessions, email Anna Van Scoyoc at avansco@emory.edu.

*Anna Van Scoyoc, Chair,
Teaching Methods Committee*

Nominations Sought for Award

The Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award recognizes an individual librarian who has made a particularly significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment. The award honors Miriam Dudley whose pioneering efforts in the field of bibliographic instruction led to the formation of the ACRL Instruction Section. Recipients receive a cash award donated by Elsevier Science, Ltd., on behalf of its publication, *Research Strategies: A Journal of Library Concepts and Instruction*. A list of previous winners is available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/isawards/miriamdudleyinstructionlibrarian.htm> Nominees should have achieved distinction in one or more of the following areas:

- Planning and implementation of an academic instruction program in a library environment that has served as a model for other programs nationally or regionally.
- Production of a body of research and publication that has a demonstrable impact on the concepts and methods of teaching and information-seeking strategies in a college or research environment.
- Sustained participation in organizations at the regional or national level devoted to the promotion and enhancement of academic instruction in a library environment.
- Promotion, development, and integration of education for instruction in ALA-accredited library schools or professional continuing education programs that have served as models for other courses and programs.

Nominations must include a letter that indicates the name, address, and phone number of both the nominee and the nominator, a current vita of the nominee, and a narrative supporting the nomination. Please note that nominees will be judged on an individual basis; this award cannot be given to a pair or group of persons. Send nominating packages no later than Friday, December 2, 2005 to: Elizabeth Dupuis, University of California, Berkeley, 302 Moffitt Library, Berkeley, CA 94720-6000, edupuis@library.berkeley.edu.

Revised IS Bibliography Available Online

The IS Research and Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce their revised edition of the "Bibliography of Citations Related to the Research Agenda for Library Instruction and Information Literacy." It is now available at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/iscommittees/webpages/research/bibcitations.htm>. This project involved a huge effort from the 2004-2005 Research and Scholarship Committee. Special thanks, however, go to a former committee member, Patrick Ragains, who originally compiled the Bibliography.

Anna Pilston, Chair, Research and Scholarship Committee

2005 IS Dinner Survey Results

A traditional IS Dinner was held at the 2005 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Sixty-five attendees enjoyed the dinner which included a cash bar, appetizers, and time for mingling and socializing. This past January, IS hosted an informal, alternative social event — the IS Soiree — which garnered many positive comments from attendees.

Do IS members prefer dinners, soirees, or a combination? In July 2005, a Web-based survey to discover member preferences was conducted of Soiree attendees, Dinner attendees from Chicago and Orlando 2004, and IS committee members. Survey highlights include:

- 241 were asked to complete the survey, 39% responded.
- 54% attended the IS Dinner at 2005 Annual.
- 48% attended the IS Soiree at 2005 Midwinter.
- 10% think IS should host Dinners at Midwinter and Annual.
- 45% think IS should host Soirees at Midwinter and Annual.
- 42% think IS should host a Soirees at Midwinter and a Dinner at Annual.

Based on the results of this survey and the Soiree survey conducted in January, Membership recommended IS host another Soiree at the Midwinter Meeting and consider replacing traditional Dinners at the Annual Conference with Soirees.

Whether it's a Dinner or Soiree, the number one reason survey respondents gave for attending an IS social event is the opportunity to meet other IS members. See you at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting IS Soiree!

Claudia Ruediger
Chair, Membership Committee

Candidates for 2006 Election Selected

The following slate of candidates has been selected for the Spring 2006 Section election:

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect:

Jean S. Caspers, Reference & Instruction Librarian, Linfield College

Scott Walter, Assistant Dean for Information & Instructional Services, University of Kansas

Secretary:

Ellysa Stern Cahoy, Information Literacy Librarian, The Pennsylvania

State University
Chad M. Kahl, Coordinator for Library Instruction & Information Literacy, Illinois State University

Member-at-Large:

Jennifer E. Knievel, Acting Head, Reference & Instructional Services, University of Colorado at Boulder

Lori A. DuBois, Reference & Instruction Librarian, Williams College

Trudi Jacobson, Chair
Nominating Committee

IS Conference Program in 2006

Teaching is at the heart of the academic enterprise, but only one of many responsibilities for the academic librarian.

How do individual librarians go about focusing on improving their work as teachers, and what do library administrators and instructional leaders need to do to help foster a healthy “culture of teaching” in their organizations?

If you want to explore these questions, to gain new perspectives on how to focus on your own work as a teacher, or to learn what research and practice tell us about the best ways to help your fellow librarians take teaching seriously, plan to attend the IS program in at the 2006 ALA Annual Conference (date and time TBA).

While final details of the program are still being confirmed as part of the ACRL planning process, the Conference Program Planning Committee plans to bring together faculty development experts, library administrators, and instruction coordinators for a far-reaching discussion of instructional improvement, professional development, and the place of a “culture of teaching” within the organizational culture of academic libraries.

Watch this space in the Spring 2006 newsletter for further details on this exciting program.

Scott Walter
Chair, 2006 Conference
Program Planning

Join Us for an Instruction Section Soiree!

What? Instruction Section Soiree

A *free* informal gathering of IS members for mingling and socializing. A cash bar will be nearby for drinks and appetizers.

When? 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting

Friday, January 13, 2006 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Where? Dirty Nelly's Irish Bar

Located on the Riverwalk adjacent to the Hilton Palace del Rio at 200 South Alamo, San Antonio, TX

RSVP by Dec. 21 to Michelle Millet at michelle.millet@trinity.edu to confirm your attendance and indicate:

- if this is your first IS social function.
- if you'd like an IS veteran to introduce you to others.
- if you need ADA assistance.



Dirty Nelly's is located on the Riverwalk adjacent to the Hilton Palace del Rio. We will have a list of local restaurants at the event if you want suggestions for where you might dine afterwards.

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