

## WORD OF MOUTH MARKETING TIPS FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Dr. Camila A. Alire Dean of University Libraries University of New Mexico

- 1. Planning is critical.
- 2. Work on getting employee support and understanding of your word of mouth marketing efforts.
- 3. Focus on one goal getting people to talk favorably about the academic library services and/or resources.
- 4. Keep the message simple.
- 5. Strategically determine who will carry your library's message by word of mouth.
  - a. Make sure they are prepared adequately be providing them the necessary facts and sound bites.
  - b. Don't overwhelm them with a complex message or too much information.
- 6. Do not underestimate the effectiveness of a peer to peer (or friend to friend) strategy for word of mouth marketing whether it is faculty to faculty or student to student.
- 7. Encourage the use of technology such as emails, Web sites, forums, etc. as word of mouth techniques which can save time and money.
- 8. Go for it and good luck!