FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR LIRT: A ONE-DAY LONG-RANGE PLANNING INSTITUTE

By Carol Bates Penka

The Library Instruction Round Table held a one-day Long-Range Planning Institute at the Sheraton Washington Hotel on Friday, January 4, 1985. The LIRT Executive Committee, LIRT committee chairs, and members of the Long-Range Planning Committee participated in the planning process which was designed to develop plans and strategies for LIRT for the next five years. The institute facilitator was LIRT Secretary John Tyson of Northern Illinois University who is a certified management consultant specializing in team building and strategic planning.

The opening remarks by Marilyn Segal, Vice-President/President-Elect, and Mary Popp, President, addressed issues facing LIRT and focused on the strategic planning process to be followed. Linda Dougherty, Past-President, reviewed the history of the LIRT organizational structure. Jeniece Guy, ALA Staff Liaison, provided background information on ALA's organizational structure, the framework in which LIRT has to work.

The strategic planning process was divided into three phases. During Phase One, the participants rewrote the existing mission statement, which had been written at a previous planning retreat held in 1979. The next element of Phase One of the planning process was a review of preliminary goal statements which had been submitted by participants. Following the review Mr. Tyson led the group in a brainstorming session to identify additional preliminary goal statements. An organization goal statement is a declared intention to achieve an outcome which is attainable, at least in part, through the efforts of the organization. In other words, each goal statement is one answer to the question, "What should our organization be, have, or be able to do to accomplish its mission?"

Phase Two was designed to enable participants to choose among the preliminary goals and to set priorities for the goals which had been selected. Mr. Tyson led the group in the use of the "concensus" technique which is used to evaluate the degree of agreement which exists in the group on each goal statement. Statements are voted on by all participants. If acceptable to 75% or more of the group, the goal statement is adopted. If acceptable to 26% to 74% of the group, it is tabled. If acceptable to 25% or less of the group, it is rejected. Next the group used the nominal group technique whereby each participant assigns a numerical score to each goal. The goals with the highest aggregate rankings are adopted. Thus participants are able to establish the priorities of the
organization. Both of these techniques allow a group to put aside individual concerns and address the future of the organization as a whole with a minimum of conflict.

In Phase Three, the Action Planning Session, members identified specific strategies to move LIRT toward achievement of its stated goals. A subcommittee consisting of Helen Burns, Skip Hamilton, and John Tyson was formed to develop an annual planning and goal progress evaluation instrument.

The mission and goals will be refined over the next few months and will be submitted to the LIRT membership at the meeting in Chicago. LIRT members are requested to send comments on the mission and goals to Marilyn Segal, St. Mark's School of Texas, 10600 Preston Road, Dallas, TX 75320. Her telephone number is (214) 363 6491, extension 146.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE

The purpose of LIRT is to advocate library instruction as a means of developing competent library and information use for lifelong learning. LIRT membership represents all types of libraries committed to this goal.

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

1. To increase awareness of library instruction as an essential service and to play an active role in the development of ALA policy promoting library instruction.

2. To help practitioners develop, improve, and promote library instruction by providing practical information, skills, and tools.

3. To broaden the base of membership involvement in the activities of LIRT by attracting active members from all types of libraries.

4. To provide opportunities in which librarians from all types of libraries can share ideas about library instruction.

5. To provide support for the establishment and growth of affiliate groups.

6. To develop and to recommend standards for training professionals involved with library instruction.

LIRT News is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) by the Library Instruction Round Table of the American Library Association. Copies are available only through annual ALA/LIRT membership; there is no single copy price. Contributions to be considered for inclusion in LIRT News should be sent to the Editor: Pamela Engelbrecht, General Reference Department, Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. Send claims to Jeniece Guy, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

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THE LIRT REPORT

( Editor's note: This new column, prepared by the LIRT Public Relations/Membership Committee, will appear in each issue of the LIRT News to keep you informed about LIRT committee activities.)

LIRT AT ALA-CHICAGO: There will be a LIRT table at ALA in Chicago this summer, contrary to reports given at ALA Midwinter. Space for small presses and professional exhibits has been made at the Continental Hotel, about two blocks from the Hyatt. Help out the LIRT PR/Membership Committee and sign up to staff the LIRT table, using the form on the next page.

BI LITERATURE UPDATE: Look forward to the June issue of LIRT News for the annual update of the annotated bibliography on library instruction, provided by LIRT's Continuing Education Committee.

"IT REALLY WORKS", a resource guide of successful BI programs, courses, speakers, instructors, and consultants, compiled by the Continuing Education Committee, will be available at ALA in Chicago. Watch for an announcement from the Publications Committee in the June issue of LIRT News.

LIRT BROCHURES: At the Midwinter Public Relations/Membership Committee meeting, Tobey Birch (California School of Professional Psychology) and Marilyn Barr (Philadelphia Free Library) reported that LIRT information/membership brochures had been made available at the California Clearinghouse on Library Instruction program at the CLA annual convention in Los Angeles and at the AASL convention in Atlanta. Any LIRT member attending a librarians' professional meeting with a bearing on library instruction can obtain supplies of the brochures for distribution at the meetings from Tobey Birch, California School of Professional Psychology, 2235 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057.

OUTREACH: Randy Hensley (University of Washington), Rosa Babcock (El Centro Community College) and Judy Wagner (Schamburg Public Library) are assisting in identifying and contacting Midwest-area librarians and library organizations with an interest in library instruction for an outreach mailing in late spring, in hopes of attracting newcomers to the LIRT program at ALA-Chicago.

MORE OUTREACH: The PR/Membership Committee also discussed the need to identify school, public and special librarians who are engaged in library use instruction in informal rather than formal "bibliographic instruction" or "library instruction" programs. Any ideas? We're looking for the rhetoric of self-identification.

In the next issue I'll report on activities of LIRT Committees in acting on the goals and objectives presented by the Long-Range Planning Group. To close, "The purpose of LIRT is to advocate library instruction as a means for developing competent library use as a part of lifelong learning." As we search for excellence in the '80's, this must be a constant concern.

Kris Ecklund
LIRT PR/Membership Committee
HELP IS NEEDED TO STAFF THE LIRT TABLE AT ALA-CHICAGO

The Membership/Public Relations Committee of the Library Instruction Round Table will again have an exhibit table at the ALA Conference. We need volunteers to staff the table and to distribute information about LIRT and our activities.

If you can contribute a couple of hours of your time you will have an opportunity to meet your colleagues and to exchange ideas about LIRT and about library instruction in general.

If you can help, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

Tobeylynn Birch
California School of Professional Psychology
2235 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

PLEASE REPLY BY MAY 15, 1985

Indicate your first, second and third choices for scheduling by placing the numerals 1, 2 & 3 in the appropriate blanks. You will be contacted prior to the conference regarding your scheduled hours.

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Name________________________________________ Telephone____________________

Institution______________________________

Address________________________________________

9am - 11am 11am - 1pm 1pm - 3 pm 3pm - 5 pm  No preference

Saturday, July 6 __________________________ __________________________ **

Sunday, July 7 __________________________ __________________________

Monday, July 8 __________________________ __________________________

Tuesday, July 9 __________________________ __________________________ **

**The exhibits close at 4pm Saturday and 3pm Tuesday.
NEW ENGLAND B I TRAVELLING COLLECTION

The BI Committee of ACRL/New England Chapter has been collecting samples of BI materials from various New England academic libraries since the collection's inception in 1975. This past year marked the (NEBIC) Committee's effort to increase awareness of the collection on the road to various regional conference. The travelling collection was first shown at the annual ACRL/New England Chapter meeting in the Spring of 1983, and since then has been shown at the Connecticut Library Association and Maine Library Association meetings, and has made second appearances at the annual New England Library Association and Rhode Island Library Association meetings.

The three-sided case has two end panels of painted pegboard, with specially designed holders to display the material. The center panel is corkboard so that pictorial display can be stapled there. The display case has been so successful in attracting viewers that the New England Library Association has commissioned a similar case for their membership committee to take to regional and state conferences. The case was built for one-third the cost of commercially built cases, and was built by volunteers of the NEBIC Committee. Information on the case can be obtained from the NEBIC Coordinator, c/o Simmons College Library, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115.

BI IN MAINE

The annual meeting of the Maine Library Association this spring has a portion of its program devoted to BI with a session entitled: "Bibliographic Instruction in the Classroom." Keynote speakers were Shaleen Barnes and Ross LaBaugh, librarians from Southeastern Massachusetts University. The focus was specific and directly aimed at librarians faced with taking their BI pitch out of the familiar confines of the library and into the classroom of the requesting professor. Theoretical advantages and disadvantages were discussed, as well as suggestions and approaches to an aspect of instruction foreign to many instruction librarians.

--Betsey Brenneman
Worcester State College (MA)

B I IN NEW JERSEY

The Fall 1984 issue of New Jersey Libraries (the official publication of the N. J. Library Association) was devoted to the theme of bibliographic instruction. Lynn Randall served as guest editor for the issue, with articles on BI in all types of libraries, i.e., public, 2-year college, 4-year college, special, being contributed. The issue also included a short article on NJ/Clue, the state clearinghouse of library instruction materials. Any reader interested in details of the issue or on the clearinghouse may write to: Lynn Randall, Director of the Library, The Berkeley School, Garret Mountain Campus, Drawer F, Little Falls, N. J. 07424.

B I WORKSHOP PACKET

The B I Committee of ACRL/New England Chapter has published a pamphlet entitled: Bibliographic Instruction Workshop Coordinator's Packet. The packet contains sample agendas, sign-up sheets, and participant evaluation sheets. A handy checklist is also enclosed to help any person preparing to host a workshop for the first time can be assured of having a reasonable timetable for completing all the necessary preparations for a successful workshop. Copies can be obtained for $3.50, postage and handling charges included, prepaid, by making a check payable to ACRL/New England Chapter. Send requests to: Betsey Brenneman, Chairperson, New England Bibliographic Instruction Committee, Worcester State College, Worcester, MA 01602.
LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE

go out for a bite with LIRT in CHICAGO

Here's your chance to talk informally with other librarians interested in library instruction. Because it is so difficult to meet librarians with similar interests at large conventions like ALA's summer conference, LIRT is organizing small groups for breakfast, lunch, or dinner at modestly priced restaurants so we can get to know each other.

Return the reservation form below. You will be notified when and where to meet your group.

LIRT includes librarians from all types of libraries: academic, public, school, special. You need not be a member of LIRT to participate.

I'd like to go out for a bite with LIRT.

My first two preferences are:

Breakfast at 7:30  
Sunday, July 7 ___

Lunch at 12:30  
Saturday, July 6 ___.  
Monday, July 8 ___

Dinner at 6:30  
Sunday, July 7  
Monday, July 8 ___

I'd be glad to be a group coordinator___

Name ____________________________________________

Institution _______________________________________

Address _______________________________________

Please send this form, by May 17, to: Emily Bergman  
California School of Professional Psychology  
2235 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA  90057
LIRT ACTION EXCHANGE

Do you have a particular instruction program or teaching problem you would like to see addressed by other LIRT members? In upcoming issues of LIRT News, we would like to present your questions for others to respond to in the LIRT ACTION EXCHANGE. Send your questions to the Editor (address on page 2).

Meanwhile, Marilyn Segal, school librarian and LIRT's Vice-President/President-Elect, has a question she would like academic librarians to answer. In this case, please send your responses on the form below directly to Marilyn, at: St. Mark's School of Texas, 10600 Preston Road, Dallas TX 75230-4047. Results will be published in a future issue of LIRT News.

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QUESTION: Which bibliographic citation style is most commonly used at your institution, particularly in freshman English courses?

MLA HANDBOOK

TURABIAN (A Manual for Writers...)__________________________

OTHER__________________________________________________

COMMENTS:

NAME OF INSTITUTION:________________________________________________________________

Thank you for responding!
UPCOMING EVENTS

Reaching Out: New Directions in Library Instruction

The Fourteenth Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use will be sponsored by the University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College and held May 15-17, 1985 in London, Ontario.

Sessions will pinpoint groups whose need for library instruction may have been overlooked in the past, e.g. faculty, adult users, graduate students and library staff. There will also be sessions on the marketing and delivery of library instruction programs and sessions on graphics, microcomputers in the library and computer-managed library instruction.

For more information contact:

Martin Ship
Workshop Chairperson
Reference Department
The D.B. Weldon Library
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario
N5A 3K7

The Syracuse University School of Information Studies is offering a bibliographic instruction course this summer. "Advanced Topics 610" will meet June 3-14, 1985, Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM to 5 PM. The course will be taught by Joan Ormondroyd, Head of the Reference Department of Cornell University's Uris Undergraduate Library. Ms. Ormondroyd is an experienced I I librarian with a background in teaching and school librarianship. She describes the new course as follows:

"This course is designed to provide students of library science with an introduction to the history, current trends and activities of bibliographic instruction in academic, public and school libraries, and to enable them to improve their teaching skills. Students will be expected to read assigned materials, prepare one written assignment, participate in class discussions and make one oral presentation to the class. Some attention will be given to skills involved in interviewing for b. i. jobs."

For further information please contact the School of Information Studies at (315) 423-2911.

On April 12, "Library Instruction and the Computer," a conference co-sponsored by the CUNY Library Association's Library Instruction Committee and the Greater New York Metropolitan Chapter of ACRL, will be held at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. Speakers include Pat Arnott (U. of Delaware), Kathleen Klemperer (Berkeley), Deanna Nipp (Mansfield U.), and Pat Walsh (U. of Bridgeport). Fee: $10 for members, $15 for others. Contact: Elysabeth Kleinmans, John Jay College Library, 445 W. 59th St., New York, NY 10019; (212) 489-5167.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS


--Included are minimum competency standards, a test of minimum library use skills, and a brief bibliography on evaluating library competency.

ARTICLES


--planning an instruction program for a neglected category of users.


--as more emphasis is placed on research strategies than on specific tools, it becomes clear that the relationship between librarians and faculty is the major element in a successful BI program.


--a model for instructing and assisting older adults in their use of libraries.


--a systematic approach to gathering and evaluating information about the curriculum.


--how one library helps instructors design their own class projects in library research.

ARTICLES continued


--describes a problematic area in the process developed for direct patron access to the literature. The author asks how librarians can ensure, not only the statistical effectiveness, but also the humane effectiveness of their delivery systems.


--description, methodology, pitfalls and advantages are discussed to serve as a model for those setting up such a program.


--Assignments on word usage, compilations, structure of the literature, teaching as a method of learning, and self-sufficiency in a discipline are described.


--The use of the pre- and posttests as a means of evaluation has shown that students' ability to design research strategies and utilize library resources effectively, increases significantly as a result of this instructional mode.

ARTICLES continued

(McLellon continued)
--This model has three stages: pre-library, library awareness, and library competence. Library use is presented as a series of activities including searching, retrieving materials, evaluating material, summarizing, and, if necessary, retracing earlier steps.

--technical skills versus imagination, indexes and computers as limited tools, difficulties inherent in humanities research.

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION IN ERIC

ED 237 101 Coons, Bill.
--INFOQUEST includes a gameboard, 18 factsheets, and 16 worksheets designed to present basic information-finding techniques in an enjoyable manner, help freshman students plan and implement successful information searches, and related students' individual information needs to the necessary overall information retrieval strategy.

ED 238 440 Eisenberg, Michael.
The Direct Use of Online Bibliographic Information Systems by Untrained End Users.
--reviews the extent of, research into, and future expectations for the use of online systems by end users.

--A microcomputer and hard disk were used to set up an automated card catalog in an Edmonton (Alberta) elementary school learning resource center to determine if a computerized card catalog would help elementary students to access learning resource materials, thereby enhancing their learning. Results showed greater student interest in an use of the library, a dramatic increase in use of the automated card catalog over the traditional type, and more use of non-fiction materials by students in grades 1 to 3.

--This guide presents a model for combining library media skills with the regular instructional program and provides a K-12 scope and sequence for library and information skills, 15 elementary and junior high school units. All units include student objectives and activities; most contain art and writing ideas, glossaries, worksheets, games or puzzles.

Many thanks to Abby Kratz (Univ. of Texas at Dallas), LIRT Publications Committee member, for designing the form on the next page. --Editor
PLEASE, SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH LIRT NEWS!

It's easy to send your newsworthy information to LIRT NEWS. Just fill out this form, or include the listed elements in your longer release, and mail it to: Pam Engelbrecht, General Reference Dept., Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

**************************************************************************************************

Person submitting this form:

NAME ____________________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

DAYTIME PHONE ( ) __________________ DATE __________

WHAT? (was held, produced, written, will/did happen.....)

WHO? (is responsible, wrote, designed, taught, will be there.....)

WHEN?

WHERE? (name of meeting, institution, city, state....)

WHY? (for whom was it done; does it/did it meet a special need.....)

HOW? (special materials or equipment needed.....)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ORDER, CONTACT:

name ____________________________________________

address ____________________________________________

____________________________________________________

(price) ____________
"GIVING THEM WHAT THEY NEED"

The LIRT program at ALA-Chicago will be Sunday, July 7 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Dr. Martha Hale, professor at the University of Southern California School of Library and Information Management, will be the keynote speaker, addressing the theme, "Assessment Techniques for Library Instruction." Four case studies from different types of libraries will also be presented. Then the audience will divide into small discussion groups. If you would like to serve as a discussion group leader (we need about 30!), please contact Sandra Ready, Mankato State University, Box 19, Mankato, MN 56001.