Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

1. ACRL expands regional, national and international adoption, use and development of information literacy standards.

Information Literacy Best Practices: 1) Revised the “Characteristics of Programs of Information Literacy that Illustrate Best Practices: A Guideline” to reflect changes to the ways that IL instruction is designed, carried out, and included in institutional planning. By revising the document to include the institutional concerns that non-library stakeholders have, the document becomes more applicable to the types of partnerships that are growing among academic affairs and the library at many universities and colleges. This revision increases the learning of non-library faculty and administrators that may be involved in developing information literacy as a campus-wide initiative. In addition, the document itself now includes professional development as a characteristic of programs that illustrate best practices. 2) The final, revised document was submitted to the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee in May 2011.

Research & Scholarship: 1) Revised the committee's publication schedule timelines to make the work more logical and consistent from year-to-year. 2) Surveyed Instruction Section members on their priorities for scholarship in information literacy and library research. The committee will use the survey results to revise the Research Agenda for Library Instruction and Information Literacy in Fall 2012. The Research Agenda helps librarians determine the most important areas of scholarship to be researched in the future.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

3. ACRL increases member abilities to create and manage physical and virtual spaces and services as environments for discovery.

2011 Conference Program Planning: The 2011 ACRL Instruction Section Program was titled “Making Information Literacy Instruction Meaningful through Creativity” and featured panelists Beth Woodard, Randy Hensley, and Dane Ward (all former instructors in the ACRL Immersion Program). Merinda Kaye Hensley moderated the session and the panelists took turns introducing concepts from a different viewpoint and recommending readings. In addition to the panelists invited posters sessions were available after the main program dealing with creativity in information literacy instruction. These posters featured topics such as the use of music from the Black Eyed Peas in writing classes (Heidi Blackburn), Bibliobouts (Karen Markey, Catherine Johnson and Alyssa Martin), backward design in lesson planning (Lauren Olewnik) and infographics (Brian Sullivan and Malia Willey). Program attendance was expected to be between 350 and 500 people; 500 handouts, crayons and 3x5 cards were brought to the session. Based on periodic headcounts, attendance at this session is estimated to have been 390 attendees.

2012 Conference Program Planning: The 2012 ACRL Instruction Section Annual Conference program is titled, “Learning Styles: Fiction, Non-Fiction, or Mystery?” The session will focus on critically examining received notions of learning styles, in order to better understand how they function in the library instruction context, both in person and online. The program will feature a panel of three speakers in conversation with a moderator. Speakers have already been identified, invited, and confirmed. They include Lori Mestre, Char Booth, and Jean Runyon.

Information Literacy in the Disciplines: 1) The committee is responsible for maintaining and updating the “Information Literacy in the Disciplines Wiki”. The wiki contains links to discipline-specific information literacy standards and accreditation agencies, and articles on teaching information literacy in particular contexts. In an effort to make sure that all pages are being updated on a regular basis, the committee agreed to establish a more formalized update cycle for the wiki. The wiki was targeted by vandals during the Spring of 2011 and it was decided that users would be required to create logins and passwords in order to update the site. The change immediately halted the vandalism. 2) To share expertise and provide advice for other committees that currently use, or are considering using, a wiki as part of their work, the committee created a “Wiki-Tips” document based on experiences maintaining the ILD wiki; a draft document is in the final stages of editing.
Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research
Goal Area: Advocacy
2. Increase ACRL’s communication on major trends and issues in libraries and higher education.

Communication: 1) Section newsletter was produced by newsletter editor Megan Hayes, timely updates were made on the Web site by Web co-administrators Jean McLaughlin and Jennifer Sharkey, committee e-mail lists were managed by list administrator Amy Van Epps, and the ILI-L listserv was moderated by ILI-L administrator Ken Simon. No major problems were reported. 2) A subcommittee reviewed the description of the Web editor position and advertised it in various venues. Subcommittee received applications, reviewed and interviewed qualified candidate, and selected Marissa Ball and Laura Schmidli to be the new Web editors. 3) Amy Van Epps was invited, and accepted, an offer to continue as list administrator for another term.

Policy & Publications Review: 1) Updated and maintained the “Bibliography of Publications By/About the Instruction Section” (IS Bibliography). Regular updates to the bibliography provide uniform access to current and past publications and press coverage by and about the Instruction Section. The IS Bibliography enables the higher education community to understand the role that academic and research librarians play in teaching, learning, and research environments by providing a record of publications that chronicle the Instruction Section’s goals, actions, practices, causes and policies. 2) Instruction Section committees propose, produce, and maintain, revise, or retire numerous publications each year. The Policy & Publications Review Committee solicits and discovers publication proposals from committees. The Publication Proposal Archive tracks the life cycle of Instruction Section publications. It includes all publication proposals that are reviewed by the IS Executive Committee and links, when relevant, to the final, approved versions of resulting publications. The committee maintains the archive of publication proposals, establishes and monitors an update schedule for IS publications, notifies the Executive Committee 12 months before a publication needs to be updated, and recommends when a publication should be retired. These activities ensure that IS policy and practice documents are kept current and relevant, or are retired when out-dated. Maintaining the IS Publications Tracking and Revision Schedule enables the higher education community to understand the role that academic and research librarians play in teaching, learning, and research environments by assisting the Instruction Section to manage, keep current, and promote the literature that the Instruction Section produces for both internal and external audiences. 3) The committee has been successful developing and codifying the protocol of actions and communication necessary to carry out this activity. Numerous individuals and groups in the organization are involved in determining and communicating the stages that a particular publication project goes through between conceptualization, review and eventually approval and production or cancellation, and/or updating and retirement. Transferring this knowledge between all involved parties has been difficult in the past, as the particular steps in the procedures are not clearly delineated in the “Publication Policies and Procedure Manual”, and have only been clearly and specifically written out in the 2010 version of the Policy and Publications Review Committee’s annual planning document. In spite of this, the procedures can benefit still by further review and re-writing.

Strategic Area: The Profession
Goal Area: Continuous Learning

1. Expand ACRL’s alignment of programs and other learning opportunities based on data, member needs, and strategic priorities.

Planning: The committee moved the Annual Planning Form to Google Forms this year making it easy for chairs to submit their annual planning documents. Informal feedback indicated that this was an easy transition for chairs and they found the process of submitting the form straightforward, although there are some questions as to how to post the forms to the IS Planning Archive website. This critical assessment and revision (if necessary) of internal processes is key to organizational effectiveness and vitality, as it minimizes the time and effort committee chairs spend on bureaucratic matters without compromising the vital record keeping and planning/assessment functions these forms demand. Professional Education: 1) Updated “Library Instruction Courses Offered by Accredited Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies” wiki; verified current listings and researched new courses that include information literacy or library instruction in course content. 2) Updated the IS list of “Sponsors of Continuing Education Programs for Library Instruction” wiki by investigating current learning opportunities available at conferences, associations and institutes in both the United States and Canada. 3) Conducted the “Continuing Education Needs and Interest Survey, 2011” in June; surveyed IS membership for feedback about professional education and the Professional Education Committee. The survey will provide feedback about the professional education needs of IS members and what they require to support their information literacy instruction work.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

3. Increase ACRL’s agility in providing cutting-edge content for learning programs and publications.

Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO): 1) The committee selects, promotes, and shares instructional materials created by librarians to teach people about discovering, accessing and evaluating information in networked environments. PRIMO committee members posted calls for nominations and submissions to identified listservs of interest in October and November yielding 18 accepted projects this year. 2) Projects receiving the highest scores and projects reflecting new technologies or unique content were selected for Site of the Month (SoM) interviews. 3) Co-chairs updated the PRIMO database after each round of project reviews, to indicate which projects were accepted / rejected; when acknowledgment, acceptance, and / or rejection letters were sent; and to make accepted projects display when the database is searched.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

4. Expand ACRL’s continuous learning opportunities on advocating the value of the library, the value of the librarian, and the value of information.

Discussion Group Steering: 1) In April and September issued calls for proposals to convene discussion groups at the Annual and Midwinter conferences. 2) Selections were made in June, at the ALA Annual Conference, and in November, by email or in the virtual Midwinter meeting: a. Midwinter 2011 program - “Affective Learning Outcomes for Library Instruction – should we, could we, and how would we?” led by Ellysa Stern Cahoy, Penn State University and Robert Schroeder, Portland State University. b. Virtual Midwinter 2011 - “Service-Learning and the Academic Librarian” led by Gabe Gossett, Western Washington University. c. Annual 2011 - “Library Instruction in Tough Times?” led by Joan Petit from Portland State. Management & Leadership: Developed a communication plan to guide promotion of the “Standards for the Proficiencies for Instruction Librarians and Coordinators”, providing a framework for continued professional development and learning for instruction librarians.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

5. Continue to play a leadership role in promoting research and publication in academic and research librarianship thereby creating and disseminating tools and a body of knowledge for the field.

Awards: 1) Calls for nominations for the Innovation and Ilene F. Rockman Publication Awards were
posted to relevant IS and academic library electronic discussion lists in early October including: ILI-L, COLLIB-L, ULS-L, INFOLIT-L, ANSS-L, and STS-L. The calls for nominations were also included in the October 2010 LOEX Currents, the Fall 2010 issue of the Instruction Section Newsletter and “College & Research Libraries News”. 2) In addition to considering external nominations, the committee reviewed journal articles and books published during the awards period to be sure that potentially strong candidates were considered. The committee completed a thorough literature review in relevant indexes. 3) Rockman Award winner: Megan Oakleaf for the article “The information literacy instruction assessment cycle: A guide for increasing student learning and improving librarian instructional skills.” Innovation Award winners: Michelle Costello & Kim Davies Hoffman for their project LILAC (Library Instruction Leadership Academy)

Instruction for Diverse Populations: Reviewed and updated the Instruction to Diverse Populations Bibliography which provides citations to articles, literature, and resources relevant to librarians who provide instruction to diverse groups of patrons in academic libraries. This project supports the instructional mission of the profession by providing access to key recent and historic foundational research related to instruction to diverse populations in ten areas. The bibliography highlights important research done by librarians in the professional and serves as a resource for continuous learning. Teaching Methods: 1) Updated the “First-Year Experience and Academic Libraries: A Select, Annotated Bibliography”, an annotated bibliography of books and journal articles related to the first-year experience and information literacy instruction. In an effort to make the document more usable, the committee added subheadings to the “additional resources” section of the bibliography. The task was completed on schedule in the fall 2010. The accompanying “Tips Document” was also updated to include information on the subheadings. 2) Added new content to two book bibliographies: “Teaching and Learning Information Literacy Skills: Textbooks for Students and Books for Instruction Librarians.” Removed bibliography links to Amazon.com and other book vendors and replaced with links to the item’s record on WorldCat. Minor revisions were made to the document for clarity and consistency. The accompanying “Tips Document” was also updated to reflect these changes.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Leadership

2. Design and deliver tools to ACRL members to empower them to communicate the value of their contributions to learning and scholarship.

Management & Leadership: 1) Revised “Analyzing Your Instructional Environment: A Workbook.” Edits were mounted on the web by the end of 2010, allowing the committee to move forward with promoting the document and soliciting feedback about the workbook. The workbook allows instruction librarians to complete an environmental scan of their instructional environment on their campus, allowing the library to take a leadership role in defining teaching and learning goals connected to information literacy programs and other initiatives. 2) Developed a communication plan to guide promotion of “Analyzing Your Instructional Environment: A Workbook.” The Annual Planning Form will detail the implementation of these ideas moving forward into the future. The primary goal of the communication plan is to begin gathering data on how institutions may be using this document. Nominating: Called for nominations in February, April, and May 2010; the call for nominations was also posted on the IS Web site. The committee found it difficult to secure nomination acceptance for some the elected positions, in all cases work load or travel budget restrictions were cited as the reason to defer. The final recommended slate was submitted to ACRL in June and the IS Chair was cleared to announce the slate to the IS Executive Committee in September, 2010. Due to a candidate withdrawal, a final (revised) slate was not approved until November, 2010 and was finally published in the January, 2011 issue of C&RL News.

4. Increase ACRL’s efforts to support recruitment of new and diverse talent to academic and research librarianship.

Membership: 1) Organized and hosted the Instruction Section’s first virtual orientation event in November 2010, preceding the Midwinter Conference. In an Adobe Connect live meeting space Stephanie Michel, IS Vice-chair, presented an informative program featuring information on how to get involved in the Section, including the committee appointment process. About 45 individuals participated, and the program was well
The committee plans to host a similar event for Midwinter 2012 and to use select content from the previous program to embed in a revised “Getting Involved” website, a project in the works for 2011-2012. 2) The Membership Committee continued its informal approach for matching returning “veteran” Section members with new members who request introductions at the IS Soiree events at Midwinter and Annual Conference. Local Arrangements collected names of “first timers” who wanted to be identified as such and/or specifically requested introductions at the event, and matches were made “on the spot” for initial introductions. Approximately 5 individuals were “matched” at the Midwinter Soiree; 38 individuals requested introductions at the Annual Soiree. Membership committee members remained near the check-in table on “stand-by” to make introductions. Committee members also printed and distributed name tags, and greeted attendees at both events. 3) Between June 2010 and April 2011, 718 letters were sent to new members, 365 letters were sent to reinstated members, 788 letters were sent to dropped members and 197 individuals completed the “dropped members” survey.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Information Technology

3. Support members in their exploration, research on, and implementation of new and emerging information technologies and their application for library services in educational environments.

Instructional Technologies: 1) Wrote and revised “Tips & Trends: Screencasting” in Winter 2011 which was downloaded 196 times in the first quarter of 2011. 2) Finalized two additional Tips & Trends documents: one on Mobile Technologies and the other on QR Codes. 2) Revised and updated the “Classroom Control Systems” wiki in late Summer and Fall 2010. New systems such as iTALC were added to the list, and existing listings were completely updated. 3) Finalized two guidelines documents designed to support the addition of user reviews to the wiki.

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Membership

1. Expand the appeal of ACRL membership among current members with a special focus on those new to the profession and early in their careers.

Mentoring: 1) Because the application form for the Instruction Section Mentoring Program did not work well for all users as a PDF, resulting in the committee receiving several blank submissions, new applications were created in Google Forms and made available online. The new forms also made the applications easier to organize and share for the matching process. 2) Received 33 applications for mentees and 20 for mentors and made 17 matches. The timing of the applications made it difficult to match the final three mentors to mentees, but the committee hopes to match them after the 2011 ALA Annual Conference. 3) Developed a series of monthly discussion prompts and sent one every 6 weeks to each mentor/mentee pair. Monthly prompts were posted to ALA Connect, so that they were easily accessible to committee members. 4) Reviewed the mentoring literature and collected information from other mentoring tip sheets that was used to revise the tip sheets, which were posted to the IS Mentoring Program website. 5) Developed a closing email that was sent to all of the participants in the FY 2010 cohort encouraging participants to continue the mentoring relationship informally in the future. The email also encouraged all participants to consider applying to become mentors in the coming year. The email was saved in ALA Connect so that future committees can use it as a template. 6) Developed a draft survey to send to 2010-2011 cohort of mentors and mentees.

Goal Area: Membership

5. Increase efforts to support recruitment of new and diverse talent to ACRL.

Local Arrangements (New Orleans): The IS Soiree location (Howlin’ Wolf Den) was chosen based on budget – only one venue was willing to work with the small IS budget for the projected number of people. Publicity for the Soiree was posted widely; the committee kept track of RSVPs in a Google Form they created. More than 100 people attended the event; 61 and 38 people indicated, respectively, that they would be first-time attendees and would like to be matched with a veteran member on the RSVP form. Local Arrangements (San Diego): The chairs selected the IS Soiree site (Proper Gastro Pub) based on
proximity to the San Diego Convention Center, cost of rental and type of space, and appetizer selection and
cost. Publicity for the Soiree was posted widely; the committee kept track of RSVPs in a Google Form they created. About 70 people attended the event, 20 were first time attendees and five asked to be
matched with a veteran member.

**Strategic Area: The Association**

**Goal Area: Sustainability**

1. *Expand commitment to adopting green and sustainable business practices for ACRL offices, conferences, continuing education and operations with business partners.*

Communication: Newsletter editor, Megan Hayes, converted the newsletter to a strictly electronic format. The committee had several discussions about how to make the newsletter more interactive, but any action was decided to be tabled until after the conversion and implementation of the Drupal CMS system.