Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

Strategic Objective: ACRL expands adoption, use and development of information literacy standards.

The STS Information Literacy Committee is expanding adoption of the Information Literacy Standards for Science and Engineering/Technology by providing example applications and tools for implementation on the ACRL Wiki. These examples include both teaching tips and assessment methods. These “tools” will increase our members’ confidence in working with faculty to incorporate information literacy into their institution’s science/technology curriculum.

Strategic Objective: ACRL increases members’ ability to collaborate and partner with faculty and other campus professionals to integrate lifelong learning skills into the curriculum; and to evaluate programs and assess individuals’ lifelong learning skills.

The STS Information Literacy Committee is increasing our members’ ability to teach and assess lifelong learning skills by providing an extensive bibliography of resources for science/technology librarians on the ACRL Wiki.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Scholarship

Strategic Objective: Strengthen ACRL's role in supporting and developing new scholarly communication models.

The STS electronic journal ISTL (Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship) is a pioneer in providing completely open access to all articles.

Strategic Objective: 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.

ISTL provides a venue for publishing research and program outcomes. The STS Research Committee provides a forum for science and technology librarians to present ongoing research for critique and evaluation prior to publication. At the Research Forum, two lengthy paper presentations are followed by detailed critiques by a guest commentator.
Strategic Objective: Improve ACRL's emphasis on the creation, collection, preservation, access, and exchange of information.

The STS Assessment Committee is collaborating with other STS committees on their assessment components, compiling those results, and making them available to all section members via a wiki, thereby furthering the exchange of information.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Advocacy

Strategic Objective: Increase ACRL's communication on major trends and issues in libraries.

The STS Government Information Committee, in fulfilling its charge to serve as a focus for STS member concerns about science and technology legislative issues that affect libraries, tracks legislative and government information and sends alerts to the STS electronic discussion list when advocacy is needed.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

Strategic Objective: Align programs and other learning opportunities with member needs and strategic priorities.

The STS Continuing Education Committee conducts a biennial survey of science and engineering librarians to discover the evolving needs of that group for continuing education beyond the master’s degree. That information is shared with SLA (Special Libraries Association) and ELD/ASEE (Engineering Library Division of the American Society for Engineering Education), whose members also participate in the survey. In the fall of 2007, by the use of a monetary incentive, the committee was able to increase participation in the survey substantially to over 300 respondents. Survey information is used to help determine program themes, discussion group topics, and the round table topic discussions held at the STS all-member breakfast at the Annual Conference.

Strategic Objective: Increase professional development opportunities focused on assisting librarians in advocating the value of the library.

The STS Continuing Education Committee increases learning opportunities for members by maintaining the section’s continuing education webpage.

Strategic Objective: Increase agility in providing cutting-edge content and delivery formats for learning programs and publications.
The STS Hot Topics Discussion Group presents programs at both the Annual and Midwinter Conferences that bring together librarians from STS and other ACRL sections to discuss cutting-edge topics of interest to librarianship. More than 60 librarians attended a Hot Topics Discussion Group presentation on e-science and data repositories at Midwinter in Philadelphia. This was quite timely, given the publication of ARL’s E-Science Report shortly before Midwinter.

**Strategic Area: The Profession**

**Goal Area: Leadership**

**Strategic Objective: Increase ACRL’s efforts to support recruitment of new and diverse talent to academic and research librarianship.**

The STS Continuing Education Committee provides the opportunity for new members to find an experienced science/technology librarian who can offer advice, guidance or consultation through its mentoring program. The STS Membership and Recruitment Committee encourages people with science degrees to become librarians and people with library degrees to explore the sciences, thereby encouraging a rich cross-fertilization of skills and outlooks that benefits both the profession and the people we serve.

**Strategic Objective: Support and encourage research and programming on the changing workforce in academic libraries and the implications for library education and training, leadership and middle management development, and staff recruitment and retention.**

The STS Nominating Committee focuses on providing leadership opportunities for the section’s membership by encouraging young librarians to run for office. The new position of Member-at-large was first filled in the April 2008 elections and will be excellent training at the national level for our younger members.

**Strategic Area: The Profession**

**Goal Area: Information Technology**

**Strategic Objective: Support members in their exploration and implementation of new and emerging information technologies and their application for library services in educational environments.**

The STS Assessment Committee has developed a liaison connection with most of the other STS committees in order to assist them with their assessment needs, encouraging their use of SurveyMonkey and other technologies. Assessment results and lessons learned are shared via reporting and compiling on the ACRL Wiki.

**Strategic Objective: Support the development and recognition of academic and research librarians as experts and campus leaders in information technology applications in libraries.**
The STS program at the upcoming Annual conference will focus on uses of visual media and gaming technology in the teaching of science and library instruction. Librarians from the University of Florida’s BioActive Game Group will be among the presenters and will be recognized as experts in information technology applications for their online library orientation game “Bioterrorism.”

**Strategic Area: The Association**

**Goal Area: Membership**

**Strategic Objective: Expand the appeal of ACRL membership among current members.**

The STS Membership and Recruitment Committee works on developing new ways to increase the section’s membership. Each year at the Annual Conference the Committee holds a New Member’s breakfast and orientation, which draws a good cross-section of new and continuing members.

**Strategic Objective: Increase the appeal of ACRL membership to broader communities.**

The STS Publications Committee is working on a video designed to demonstrate the variety, challenges, and rewards of sci-tech librarianship, to appeal to college students majoring in the sciences who might not have considered librarianship as a career. The STS Liaisons Committee supports and encourages members who belong to other sci/tech library organizations to attend their meetings and communicate the interests of STS and ACRL. While this is also related to advocacy, it has the added benefit of raising the awareness of members in these broader communities about STS and ACRL and may encourage additional membership in our section.