

INTEGRATING COMPUTER-RELATED CONCEPTS INTO A LIBRARY RESEARCH COURSE

Because the computer has rapidly become ubiquitous in libraries and in society, designers of the University of Colorado, Boulder, two credit course, "Methods of Library Research," decided to expand coverage of computer-related concepts in the course manual. The designers were also motivated by the long-awaited and then imminent arrival of an online Public Access Catalog (PAC) in the UCB Libraries. Because PAC was designed to be "user transparent" and minimal documentation on the system was available, instructional materials were not developed prior to its mid-semester installation in early November 1983. The system is still largely experimental and characterized by frequent changes. The public card catalog remains active. Nevertheless, course designers began incorporating general PAC concepts into the manual. At the same time, the course unit on computer literature searching was expanded. It was discovered that there is significant conceptual overlap in instruction for the two forms of online access.

The course manual (an earlier version is available as ERIC document #212279) is structured as a broad, general research strategy. It is organized by types of reference sources in the social sciences or humanities. It features 6 exercises which cover encyclopedias, wordbooks, guides to the literature, the card catalog, periodical and newspaper indexes, and other sources of information; as well as instructional units for these and other areas. As a part of each exercise, students identify and locate items to include on a final pathfinder. Formerly, the unit on computer literature searching included a lecture and a live demonstration in a single class period, but no exercise. Now, some of the aspects of computer literature searching are introduced throughout the semester, in addition to the lecture, and "hands-on" experience in developing an online search strategy is provided. The importance of vocabulary control, stressed early in the semester, is even more significant when tied to online searching. The distinction made between database access

via "natural language" vs. access via a "controlled vocabulary" also applies to PAC, which can be searched by LC subject headings as well as words in titles and other fields. The coverage of thesauri in the unit on wordbooks now includes database thesauri. Online equivalents of printed sources (including encyclopedias, directories, indexes, etc.) are noted throughout the manual.

In the lecture on computer literature searching, which is structured with a set of transparencies and handouts (available through LOEX, and to be on display at the LIRT booth in Dallas), new emphasis has been placed on Boolean logic, especially the difference between searching with the AND operator vs. searching with the OR operator. Parallels are drawn between the "user-supplied" AND operator in computer literature searching and the "embedded" AND operator in PAC software. Although it is not necessary for the PAC user to understand Boolean logic to effectively utilize the system, an understanding of the operators and their functions will improve retrieval and, perhaps, user satisfaction. During a subsequent class period, the students are asked to develop online search strategies for their pathfinder topics. Instead of a live group demonstration, student search strategies are individually executed online by members of the Reference Department. Students are given the opportunity to watch their searches executed, and they all receive their printouts.

Use of PAC is now included in the exercise on locating books. The students are directed to compile a list of subject headings from LCSH and to use the subject card catalog. They next search in PAC under an author discovered in the subject catalog, under an LC subject heading, under key words which are not necessarily established headings, and under the LC class for their topic. Students are asked to compare their findings in PAC to what they discovered in the card catalog and to list relevant PAC search terms which are not LC headings. Their pathfinders now include a column, opposite the list of LC subject headings, for "additional terms to access materials in PAC."

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: Eddy Hogan, Reference Department, Campus Box 184, University of Colorado Libraries, Boulder, CO 80309 or to the Assistant 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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In the section of the manual on classification and call numbers, the discussion of browsing now encompasses browsing online by call number. Additional instructional materials for PAC will be added to the manual as they as developed.

Deborah Fink, Reference/Instruction Librarian Eddy Hogan, Reference Librarian/Principal Searcher and Trainer, Computer Based Reference Service

University of Colorado

TEACHING PACKAGES

Fundamentals of Research in Sociology.

Teacher's Notes, Transparencies, Bibliography, Exercises. Teaching Packages #1.

City University of New York, Bernard

Baruch College, 1981. ED 229019

This document is the first in a series of twelve Teaching Packages edited by Thomas V. Atkins and produced by the Library Instruction Services at Baruch College. All are available on microfiche or paper via ERIC. The packages are uniformly organized and average 30 pages in length. Their purpose is "to help a non-library instructor prepare undergraduate students to find and use books, indexes, abstracts, periodical articles, and other printed reference sources in a search for published information on": Literary Criticism (ED 229 020), Industrial Psychology (ED 229 021), the American Political Process (ED 229 022), Advertising (ED 229 023), Accounting (ED 229 024), Retailing (ED 229 025), Legislation (ED 229 026), the Ethnic Experience in America (ED 229 027), Consumer Behavior (ED 229 028), Marketing (ED 229 052), and Anthropology and Ethnography (ED 229 053). For a discussion of the development of the Sociology module see: McDonough, Kristin and Rothman, Barbara Katz. "The Library Research Module in Introductory Sociology: The Case Study of a Collaboration." Research Strategies 1 (Summer 1983): 109-117.

INSTRUCTION WORKSHOP

The 13th Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use to be cosponsored by St. Lawrence College and Queen's University will be held 16-18 May 1984 at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

The theme of this year's workshop is "Coping with Crisis: Strategies for Survival." Topics to be
addressed include: constructive
ways to deal with issues such as
burnout, staffing and financial
cutbacks with sessions on revitalizing instruction, job exchanges
and job sharing, time and financial
management, and computer-assisted
instruction to combat staff shortages. Contact Barbara Love, St.
Lawrence College Library, Kingston,
Ontario K71 5A6.

ROUND TABLE NEWS

"EDITORIAL"

The new Assistant Editor of *LIRT News* is Pamela Engelbrecht, General Reference Department, Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061/(703) 961-5069. Pam will become Editor and chair of the LIRT Publications Committee after the Annual conference in Dallas this summer.

As of April 1984, the current Editor's new work address will be: Eddy Hogan, General Reference, Main Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720/(415) 642-3773.

LIRT, A-V, TX, and YOU

In a time of economic stress, we often find it necessary to create our own instructional media rather than purchasing commercially-available materials. To help librarians plan and produce successful audio-visuals as economically as possible, LIRT will focus on "Getting the Most for the Least" in their annual conference program scheduled for Monday, June 25 in Dallas.

Slated for the Program are two professionals who will discuss broad planning and instructional design of educational media and principles for media selection and production. Following the speakers, samples of home-produced media will be demonstrated in a media exchange. In a media fair atmosphere, attendees will be able to view samples at their leisure and will have time to discuss problems and successes with producers of the various audio-visual productions.

EXPOSE YOURSELF At the LIRT Exhibit Booth

Your library's instructional materials may be shared at the ALA 1984 Dallas Conference. If you act now, or before June 1, the Library Instruction Round Table will display them at its exhibit booth June 23-26. The Membership/PR Committee welcomes all formats of pathfinders, workbooks, study guides, program announcements, aims and objectives, course curricula, evaluation instruments, etc.---from academic, public, school, and special libraries.

Audiovisual materials may be retrieved at the close of the exhibits on June 26. No other materials can be returned. Please send your contributions to: Emily Bergman, California School of Professional Psychology, 2235 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057/(213) 483-7034, ext. 54.

PUT IN YOUR 2¢

The Long Range Planning Committee is actively engaged in developing plans for the future of LIRT. At our Midwinter meeting in Washington, we set up mechanisms for development of: a planning process, goals and objectives for 1984-85 activities, and a 5-year plan.

We will be using data collected in the recent membership survey, but we will also need <u>current</u> ideas. Tell us what <u>you</u> want from LIRT. Write or call: Mary Popp, Undergraduate Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405/(812) 335-9857.

ROUND TABLES EXAMINE PROPOSED FEE INCREASE

In June of 1983, Ruth Frame, ALA's Deputy Executive Director, sent a memo to Round Table officers concerning ALA's assessment policy.

At the present time, LIRT is annually assessed nearly \$700 or 10% of our dues income in overhead charges. Five Round Tables were assessed at the 10% rate and seven were assessed at the rate of 5%. The total of all Round Table assessments for the 1982-83 year was \$4118.

The June 1983 proposal, known as ALA Policy 6.3.5, described in Council Document number 35, would change LIRT's assessment in two ways: (1) the assessment would be based on expenditures rather than dues income, and (2) the assessment would be based on ALA's indirect cost study instead of using a 5% or 10% formula. This indirect cost assessment is currently 13%.

During Midwinter, LIRT met with other Round Tables, principally, GODORT and SRRT. Questions about this new assessment proposal were raised. LIRT will pursue this concern with the other Round Tables. We will also seek to establish an affiliation of Round Tables in some format to deal with such issues in the future. Dallas will provide another forum for these discussions.

--- Linda Dougherty LIRT President

D.C. COMMITTEE CAPSULES

The various LIRT committees had a productive time during the ALA Midwinter meeting in Washington. Some highlights of the activities taken from the Liaison Committee reports are summarized below.

The Conference Committee has contacted several potential co-sponsors for the annual program, has lined up the speakers, and reports a good response to its call for media. The Committee will seek more input from special and public libraries.

The Affiliates Council discussed what state chapters would like to see LIRT do for them. Suggestions included: circulation of ideas that were successful at the state level (especially programs for public and special libraries) and loan of ALA-LIRT conference tapes to affiliates via ILL.

The Continuing Education Committee continued work on two projects: an annotated bibliography on CE and BI, and a booklet entitled "It Really Works," both scheduled for 1984 publication.

The Public Relations/Membership Committee discussed starting a regular column in *LIRT News* to publicize its activities. Membership activites for Dallas, including a breakfast, lunch and booth sitting were organized. Publication of a new member packet was approved.

The Research Committee's questionnaire on the use of computers in BI is in this issue of *LIRT News*. Lists of software will be published in an upcomming issue.

> --- Cathy Doyle University of Houston

JOIN IN

Do you want to become actively involved in LIRT by serving on a committee, task force, or as a Regional Reporter for LIRT News? 1984-85 committees are being formed now! New Regional Reporters are being sought now! Contact: Mary Popp, Undergraduate Library, Library W121, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

LIRT MEMBERS RUNNING FOR COUNCIL

Linda Dougherty and John Tyson are running for ALA Council seats this year. Please keep them in mind and look for their biographical sketches when you receive your ballots from ALA in April.

HELP IS NEEDED TO STAFF THE LIRT BOOTH AT ALA-DALLAS

The Membership/Public Relations Committee of the Library Instruction Round Table will again have an exhibit booth at the ALA conference. We need volunteers to staff the booth and to distribute information about L.I.R.T. 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 L.I.R.T. and about library instruction in general.

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

Betty C. Black Ventura County Library Services Agency P. O. Box 771 Ventura, CA 93002

Please reply by May 15, 1984

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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^{* *}The exhibits close at 3pm on Tuesday.

El Centro College Main and Lamar

Dallas, Texas 75202

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE

GO OUT FOR A BITE WITH LIRT IN DALLAS

Here's your chance to talk informally with other librarians interested in library instruction. LIRT is again offering an opportunity to sign up for breakfast, lunch or dinner with a small group of librarians who wish to exchange ideas and get to know one another during the ALA Conference in Dallas.

Send in the application form below and you will be notified of where to meet for a trip to a moderately-priced restaurant.

LIRT includes librarians from all types of libraries. You need not be a member of LIRT to participate. Come and get acquainted.

I'd like to go out for a bite with LIRT.	
My first two preferences are:	
Breakfast at 7:30 Tuesday, June 26 Go FOR	
Lunch at 12:30 Saturday, June 23 Monday, June 25 WITH LIRT	
Dinner at 6:30 Sunday, June 24 Monday, June 25	
If possible, I'd like to try Tex-Mex food	
I'd be glad to be a group coordinator	
Name	
Institution	
Address	
Please send this form, by May 15, to: Rosa Babcock Learning Resources Co	enter

ACRL-BIS NEWSLETTER TO BE PUBLISHED

The Bibliographic Instruction Section of ACRL will publish the first issue of the *BIS Newsletter* in March of 1984.

The Newsletter will be mailed to the BIS membership twice yearly following the Midwinter and Annual meetings of ALA. It is not available on subscription.

The BIS Newsletter will serve as a vehicle for Section news, including reports of conference activities, committee meetings, and projects. The editor is Loanne L. Snavely, Bertrand Library, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837 (717) 524-1557.

NEW BI DIRECTORY PUBLISHED

no. 11, Bibliographic Instruction in Illinois Academic Libraries: A Survey Report, has just been published. This 86-page publication is the result of a 1982 survey of all Illinois college and university libraries. Information was received from 143 academic libraries, about 70% of those polled. The results are summarized in a 25-page chapter, and relevant information is given for each library by name with four indexes.

The survey was done by the University of Illinois Library Research Center for the Illinois State Library, in cooperation with the Bibliographic Instruction Committee of the state chapter of ACRL. Copies are available without charge from the Publications Unit, Illinois State Library, Centennial Bldg., Springfield, IL 62756.

MICROCOMPUTERS IN INSTRUCTION SURVEY LIRT-sponsored questionnaire

In June 1982 the ALA-Library Instruction Round Table established a Research Committee. The charge of the committee is: 1) identify state-of-theart research about library instruction for all types of libraries, and 2) pinpoint areas that need investigation.

At the first organizational meeting in January 1983, the committee decided to survey the use of microcomputers in bibliographic instruction in all types of libraries. A questionnaire for this purpose was designed by Robert Kuhner of CUNY and Pam Engelbrecht of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and revised by the entire committee at the June 1983 ALA Annual convention on Los Angeles.

The committee would appreciate your cooperation in answering the question-naire printed below. If you wish to make any comments or need additional space for responses, attach a separate sheet to the form. Should you wish any or all of your responses to be kept confidential, please indicate this by placing a "C" next to the response(s). Also, would you list the names of any other libraries that you know which have or are developing computer-assisted teaching of library skills programs.

Your responses will be analyzed by the committee and a report will be published in a future issue of *RESIN*.

Please fill out the questionnaire and send it to: Eileen Dubin, William Rainey Harper College, Algonquin & Roselle Roads, Palatine, IL 60067.



American Library Association/Library Instruction Round Table Research Committee

COMPUTER ASSISTED TEACHING OF LIBRARY SKILLS QUESTIONNAIRE

LIBRARY						
ADDRESS		city	state	zip		
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Estimated costs: If possible,	Hardware \$	Software costs:	\$			

COMPUTER CONCERNS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTION CALL FOR INFORMATION

During the 1983 ALA Conference in Los Angeles, the ACRL/BIS Computer Concerns Committee identified a variety of topics which represent major areas of interest and activity relating to the integration of computers into bibliographic instruction. These topics are:

1. Instruction in the use of on-line public access catalogs;

2. Computer-assisted instruction in library use;

3. End-user searching of computerized bibliographic data bases;

4. Computer-mediated on-line searching;

5. Human-computer interaction.

If you are involved with or interested in integrating computers into bibliographic instruction, we would like to hear from you. The Committee hopes to prepare for distribution a list or directory of librarian contacts in computer concerns relating to bibliographic instruction. The list will be available through LOEX. The information provided will also help us plan future committee studies and programming activities.

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO: BY (DATE) _____APRIL 16, 1984

Joann H. Lee, Chair ACRL/BIS Computer Concerns Committee Lake Forest College Library Lake Forest, IL 60045

- 1. Your name, institutional mailing address, and phone number.
- 2. Your ALA division memberships in section, discussion groups, committees, etc.
- 3. A brief description of the areas of interest or activity you are:
 - a. Presently engaged in (e.g., "provide workshops for enduser searching to chemistry graduate students")
 - b. planning to incorporate into your bibliographic instruction program (e.g., "working on CAI module for Apple II micro-computer to teach the use of periodical indexes")
 - c. interested in (e.g., "would like to hear more about using computers to teach patrons to use on-line catalogs")
- 4. Additional computer concerns not listed above.
- 5. Personal expertise relating to above issues.
- 6. Publications relating to your project (have you written any journal articles or other publications concerning your work?)

Thank you for your cooperation. The results of this call for information will be made available as soon as possible.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

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 Gaming in the Media Center Made Easy.

 Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited,

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- Lester, James D. Writing Research Papers:

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 IL: Scott, Foresman & Co., 1984. 298p.

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 Specialists. Littleton, CO: Libraries
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 "Long-Range Effectiveness of Library Use Instruction." College and Research Libraries 44 (November 1983): 476-480.
- Sugranes, Maria R. and Neal, James A.

 "Evaluation of a Self-Paced Bibliographic Instruction Course." College and Research Libraries 44 (November 1983): 444-457.
- Toifel, Ronald C. and Davis, Wesley D.

 "Investigating Library Study Skills
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 Journal of Academic Librarianship
 9 (September 1983): 211-215.
- Vermette, Paul J. "A Generalized Model for High School Concept Instruction."

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 118-124.

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE NEWS

c/o Jeniece Guy

American Library Association

50 E. Huron Street

Chicago, IL 60611

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