



LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE NEWS

The purpose of LIRT is to advocate library instruction as a means for developing competent library and information use as a part of life-long learning.

March 1998 volume 20 no. 3

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VP Report from the Vice-President

by Gale Burrow, gburrow@rocky.claremont.edu

What makes an ALA Conference rewarding? I've thought about that a lot since January's Midwinter Conference in New Orleans. As busy as I was during those five days, I came back to Claremont full of energy and enthusiasm, eager to share ideas I'd encountered and encourage others to get involved in ALA.

Was it the city? New Orleans is one of my favorite conference cities — friendly people, plenty of good food, and lots to do. I think we saw the best and the worst of a New Orleans winter. The first few days were gloriously warm and clear, the last two rainy, windy and chilly. But Monday's rains gave me the opportunity to spend time with other LIRT folks also seeking shelter from the downpour, just talking and getting to know each other better while we waited for our next meetings. And in spite of the rain, Linda Chopra, LIRT's Treasurer, and I shopped and lunched in the French Quarter after our Tuesday morning meeting.

LIRT Midwinter Discussion Forum: NILI

by Mitch Stepanovich, stepanovich@library.uta.edu

The National Information Literacy Institute (NILI) was the focus for the LIRT Discussion Forum in New Orleans. Intended to help educate instruction librarians and provide programs and forums about information literacy, the Institute will first develop an intensive training program for librarians who are new to teaching. Mitch Stepanovich, who represents LIRT on the NILI steering group, moderated the forum and provided background information about NILI. Then, the 25 people in attendance asked questions, made comments, and engaged in animated discussion.

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While I was getting to know LIRT folks, I also learned more about LIRT. Several of us spent an intense hour with Lorelle Swader, our ALA Liaison, trying to understand how the budget works. That was challenging! At Saturday's All-Committees meeting one of my responsibilities was to visit each committee, hear what they were doing, and find out if there were ways I could help them. Every group was enthusiastic about their projects and working to make those projects as valuable as possible for all of us who provide library instruction. It was energizing to interact with people who are so involved in our organization and our profession. And I've concluded that's what makes a conference rewarding — feeling involved.

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FROM THE EDITOR

News-Bites

New Orleans is a lovely historic city. Wandering in the streets of the French Quarter past the Old Ursuline Convent (erected 1727-34), or bumping along on a street car through the Garden District, or threading through the city's unique, above-ground cemeteries, the visitor may feel the past is palpably present - or, at least, the past is lurking in the background like one of Anne Rice's stylish vampires. But the city's sprawling conference facility, its modern hotels, and thriving shopping districts are indications of the city's potential to flourish.

Similarly, this issue of your LIRT Newsletter includes some history in the form of reports of work completed and tasks accomplished; however, you will also find a slate of candidates running for LIRT offices, a proposal for bylaws revisions, and forward-looking articles and columns. As always, these pages give evidence of a vital and healthy organization thoughtfully positioning itself for the future.

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Reinert/Alumni Library
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California members Susan Clark (University of the Pacific, sclark@uop.edu) and Linda Goff (California State University, Sacramento, ljgoff@csus.edu) both started semester-long sabbaticals on January 26, 1998. Susan plans to research and write on assessment of library instruction while Linda plans to write instructional web pages. Both will be back to work in June.

Susan Clark also wrote "Reference Sources on the Internet: Geography and International Studies" for the *Reference Librarian* (no. 57, 1997).
E-mail: sclark@uop.edu

For the same issue of the *Reference Librarian*, Rachel Fenske, Instruction Librarian, Eastern Washington University, wrote "Career and Employment Resources on the Internet."
E-mail: rfenske@ewu.edu

As a result of a building renovation, Kari Lucas, Undergraduate Librarian, UC San Diego, will be working 10-12 hours per week at UCSD's Biomedical Library in the capacity of Instruction Coordinator and reference librarian until July 1998 when she will transfer to full-time status and remain at the Biomedical Library until the reopening of the renovated Undergraduate Library in 2000.
E-mail: klucas@ucsd.edu

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*The due date for submissions to the June issue of
LIRT News is **April 15, 1998!!!***

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Editor: David G. Sherwood, Reinert/Alumni Library, Creighton University, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68111.

Contributions to be considered for the June 1998 issue must be sent to the editor by April 15, 1998. Send claims to Pat Jackson, OLPR, 800-545-2433, X4281, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

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Production Editor: Jana S. Edwards © American Library Association

SLATE FOR LIRT OFFICE, 1998-99

Candidate for VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

MITCH STEPANOVICH

Architecture Librarian, Architecture Library, University of Texas, Arlington, 1986-
BS, Social Science, University of Oregon, 1977
MLS, University of Oregon, 1978
MS - Educational Policy and Management, 1982

LIRT Offices Held: Publicity Coordinator, 1994-;
Secretary, 1993-94

LIRT Committee Service: Liaison Committee Chair,
1991-92

Professional Memberships and Awards: Oregon Community College Library Association, President, 1982-83. National Librarians Association, PNW Chapter, Treasurer, 1981-83. Oregon Library Association, Automation Committee, Co-Chair, 1983-84. Phi Theta Kappa Scholastic Fraternity, Oregon-Idaho Advisor, 1982-86; Hall of Honor Award for Advisors, 1985.

Statement of Professional Concerns: As librarians engaged in instruction activities we are confronted with an ever-changing array of information sources. Not only can content change with short notice, but modes of access and hardware configuration can also vary unexpectedly. Incorporating such change into our instruction activities can become frustrating with insufficient experience or without colleagues in similar situations from which we can draw. LIRT provides this valuable connection between school, public, academic, and special librarians through programs and meetings at conferences, several publications, the newsletter (*LIRT News*), and a discussion list (LIRT-L). There are also unlimited possibilities for involvement in LIRT through committee or task force work, whether or not one can attend conferences. It is the people involved in LIRT and the activities in which they are engaged that has always inspired me most. Get involved, become inspired. ■

Teaching the Teaching Librarian

Sunday, June 28, 1998, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Librarians learn to teach in many ways: by attending workshops and programs, by reading the current literature, and by sharing concerns and problems with colleagues. The 1998 LIRT Annual Conference Program in Washington, DC will present representatives from three innovative programs to discuss additional opportunities for enhancing teaching skills:

- ✕ The National Information Literacy Institute
- ✕ Library Instruction in the library schools
- ✕ PREMIER, a colleague-to-colleague program created by librarians in the Michigan Library Association to provide peer support and instructional counseling

Please mark the time and date on your calendar for this very interesting program.

Candidates for SECRETARY

LINDA J. GOFF

Library Instruction Librarian, California State University, Sacramento, 1994-

BA, Social Science; California State University, Sacramento

MA, Instructional Media and Technology; Mankato State University

MLIS, 1977, Post Graduate Courses for Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education, Rutgers University, 1978

LIRT Committee Service: Public Relations/ Membership Committee Member, 1994-98, chair, 1996-98. Steering Committee Member, 1996-98. Bites with LIRT, 1994-97. Booth Coordinator, 1998.

Professional Membership and Awards: LAMA Public Relations Committee, Swap & Shop Committee, 1991-92. ALA Membership Promotion Task Force, 1996-98. California Library Association, Member-at-Large, CLA Assembly, 1995-98. CLA Program Planning Committee, Annual Conference, Oakland, Nov. 1993. California Academic & Research Libraries, Ad Hoc Task Force to Recommend Information Literacy Standards to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 1996-97. California Clearinghouse on Library Instruction, Treasurer, 1987-98. Mayor's Award, City of Fresno, 1985, for contribution to successful centennial celebration. Moderator and Program Planner, "Information Competency: Planning a Statewide Approach," CLA Annual Conference, 1996.

Statement of Professional Concerns: As a candidate for the office of LIRT Secretary, I promise that the minutes will be complete, concise and prompt. Beyond that I will endeavor to contribute to the Executive Committee and Steering Committee discussions the insights I have gained during my 25 years as a librarian in both public and academic libraries.

During most of the past decade I have focused on the need for California to develop a systematic approach to provide users with information skills they need to succeed in an information society. Users must be able to travel effortlessly between types of libraries, depending on their needs and their stage of life. School,

public, academic and special librarians must work together to teach information literacy skills if we are to achieve our common goal of developing citizens that are lifelong learners. ■

DAVID G. SHERWOOD

Internet/Support Coordinator, Reinert/Alumni Library, Creighton University, 1993-

BA, Baylor University, 1981

MA, Baylor University, 1986

MLIS, University of Texas at Austin, 1993

LIRT Committee Service: Liaison Committee 1994-96. Newsletter Committee 1996, Newsletter Committee Chair and Editor LIRT Newsletter, 1997-

Professional Membership and Awards: ACRL, IS; LITA; Nebraska Library Association, College and University Section; Phi Kappa Phi; Beta Phi Mu. Fellow of the U.S. West Center for Academic Development and Instructional Technology, 1996.

Publication: "Internet 101: Reinert/Alumni Library's Evolving Workshop Series", Nebraska Library Association Quarterly 25.4 (Winter 1994): 70-72.

Conference Presentation: "The Library Web Site: An Instructional Tool," Nebraska Library Association Annual Conference, 1997.

Statement of Professional Concerns: LIRT's genius is in bringing together diverse segments of our profession to discuss the common enterprise of library instruction. Whether we are public, school, academic, or special librarians, we have a share in the task of teaching users to be effective information consumers. By providing a forum in which we learn from one another, LIRT serves not only as a means of professional enrichment for instruction librarians, but also as a catalyst in the creation of new knowledge.

To thrive, LIRT needs the active participation of its members; officers are important only to the extent that they support that participation. The Secretary does this by recording the decisions of the membership and its elected representatives, thus forming the basis of LIRT's institutional memory. ■

Candidates for VICE-TREASURER/TREASURER-ELECT

CHUCK DINTRONE

Reference Librarian, San Diego State University, 1992-BA, UCLA, 1964
MA, UCLA, 1966
MLS, UC Berkeley, 1968

LIRT Committee Service: Liaison Committee Chair, 1986-88, member 1984-86; Computer Applications Committee member, 1988-91; Publicity Coordinator (executive board position), 1988-94; Elections/Nominations Committee Chair, 1994-95; member 1992-95; Long-Range Planning Committee Chair 1995-97, member 1993-97 (this committee planned the LIRT retreat on February 14, 1997) Nominated for President, 1995; Organization and By-laws Committee, member 1997-99

Professional Memberships and Awards: RUSA MOUSS Services to Adults Committee, Member, 1996-present. ALCTS PLMS 1994 program committee, member, 1993-94. ACRL Legislation Committee, member, 1985-88. California Clearinghouse on Library Instruction, Treasurer for first few years of its founding (1974-1978). California Library Association, Secretary of California Society of Librarians, 1975-76. California Library Association, Government Publications Chapter, Newsletter editor, 1981-82, 1983-85. Sabbaticals, Fall 1995 and Spring 1988. Scholarship and Creative activity Award (a grant from the California State University system), won twice (Spring 1989 and Spring 1992).

Publication: Television Program Master Index (book) McFarland, 1996.

Statement of Professional Concerns: My experience in LIRT has engendered a belief in a balanced approach to LIRT's finances. LIRT must remain fiscally sound but we must not overreact to possible future deficits. Sales of publications, a dues increase, recent careful spending, and the institution of a five year financial planning task force, have helped LIRT become more sound. With the twenty-fifth anniversary coming up, it is my belief that we can afford to spend our money to achieve our goals while still keeping a sharp eye on our expenses to make sure we do not go into debt. As chair of several committees and as publicity coordinator (a member of the Executive Board), I have sat on the

steering committee for over 10 years and have participated in discussion on the budget. My experience, coupled with my philosophy of a balanced approach, qualify me for the position of Treasurer Elect. ■

JOHN SPENCER

Reference Librarian & Coordinator of Extended Campus Library Services, Central Washington University, 1997-BA, Wheaton College, 1977
MA, Kent State University, 1983
MLS, Southern Connecticut State University, 1989

LIRT Committee Service: Publications Committee, member, 1996-97; Newsletter Editor, 1995-97; Newsletter Committee, member, 1994-95; Continuing Education Committee, 1991-93, chair, 1993-94.

Professional Memberships and Awards: NMRT, Students to ALA Committee, 1990-91. ACRL, Instruction Section, Awards Committee member, 1994-96. ACRL, Bibliographic Instruction Section, Awards Committee Intern, 1993-94.

Publications: Co-authored an article, "A Citation Analysis Study of Library Science: Who Cites Librarians?" College and Research Libraries, Jan 1996, pp. 23-33. Co-authored article, "Information Literacy: The Key to Lifelong Learning." Life-Long Learning Conference Proceedings, San Diego, National University Research Institute, 1994, pp. 86-89. Co-authored article, "Building a Collection Development Team in an Academic Library." Empowerment and Opportunity: Contributed Papers Presented at the ASLA-AEMA Annual Conference 1996, pp. 1-14.

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New Orleans Photos

Current Treasurer,
Linda Chopra, working
on LIRT's budget.

(Photos by Kari Lucas and
David Sherwood)

STRUT YOUR STUFF

on the Instructional Superhighway

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Make it easy... send us two copies of your latest & great handouts for display in the LIRT booth at Washington, D. C. If you have done a Power Point presentation, please print out the slides.

Critical Thinking

Power Point Presentations

Internet Instruction

Electronic Media

E-mail Groups

Website Tutorials

SEND TO: Donna Kanapes, Branch Librarian
Chicago Public Library
North Austin Branch
5724 W. North Avenue
Chicago, IL 60639
(312) 746-4233, FAX (312) 746-9514
dkanapes@chipublib.org

CANDIDATES: JOHN SPENCER

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Statement of Professional Concerns: Involvement in ALA and LIRT provides opportunities for interacting with colleagues to address issues related to library instruction in all types of libraries. As Treasurer, one of my goals would be to expand LIRT's ability to maintain and increase its financial reserve so that LIRT can continue its outstanding programs, publications and networks. I would also pay close attention to the details of providing financial resources for LIRT's many activities and help assure that financial obligations are met in a fiscally sound manner. Continuing the role of LIRT as a forum for librarians from all types of institutions to share and discuss library instructions is an important contribution to the field. Helping students of all ages develop essential information gathering skills is a worthwhile effort for LIRT members. With the growth of information and information technology, our skills as educators and as teachers are invaluable in the information age. ■

Vice-President

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There are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved if you're not already. Many LIRT committees need volunteers, and each one offers different avenues for participation. For example, the Liaison Committee provides a window into the work of non-LIRT groups involved in library instruction; if you'd like to sample what's going on in instruction throughout ALA, this is the committee for you. The 1999 Program Planning Committee is looking for people with great ideas to help plan and organize an outstanding program. If your expertise lies in using computers in instruction, you may want to join the Computer Applications Committee. Whatever your interests, LIRT has a place for you. So volunteer! You'll like being involved. ■



LIRT News *is on the web!*

<http://diogenes.baylor.edu/Library/LIRT/>

Providing Library Instruction for Students of Studio Art and Design: A Branch Library Perspective

by Ann Lindell, annlind@mail.uflib.ufl.edu

Branch Library Environment And Clientele

The Architecture and Fine Arts Library (AFA) at the University of Florida is one of several branch libraries under the administration of the University Libraries. We are fortunate to be located within the University's Fine Arts Complex, so our primary clientele, students and faculty from the Colleges of Fine Arts and Architecture, have easy access to our services and collections. While we serve the information needs of the University as a whole, the majority of our patrons are regular library users, immersed in the research and study of art, architecture, and building. Faculty rely heavily on the reserve reading services, so their students are often familiar with the library before receiving formal library instruction.

Using The Library Web Site As An Instruction Tool

Staff at all University of Florida libraries and collections are actively developing Web sites. Links are provided to all of these specialized sites from a main library home page. At the AFA Library, we have developed our Web site <<http://afalib.uflib.ufl.edu/afa>> to perform a variety of functions. It serves as an introduction to our staff, services and collections; provides finding aids for special format materials (video, student projects); links to specialized bibliographies; serves as a guide to information about arts and building available on the World Wide Web; and provides a focused access point to arts-related resources available through the University Libraries (library catalog, periodical databases, electronic journals, guides to print materials, and other resources).

The AFA Library Web site serves as a useful tool to organize library instruction. Most instruction sessions are held in an electronic classroom where students are able to work hands-on with resources, as examples are projected from the instructor's workstation for the class to see. Use of the Web site provides a common touchstone for the many diverse resources presented.

In addition, it facilitates a highly visual presentation, which is well received by students in art and design. At the end of the presentation, students leave knowing that they can have access to many resources they will need, including the library catalog, through this one springboard.

Content: How To Find Visual Information And More

AFA Librarians teach students traditional library skills including the interpretation of catalog records and strategies for finding background information, books, and periodical literature. Depending on the expertise level of the participants, database searching skills are introduced and/or refined.

Because the work of these students is primarily visual, an important area of emphasis in library instruction sessions is image retrieval. In analyzing bibliographic records, students are taught to pay particular attention to the physical description and to contents notes. These elements will provide clues to what type of visual information may be found in a particular book or article (illustrations, photographs, drawings, portraits, charts, maps, plans). Participants are also introduced to key subject phrases to use in searching: "pictorial works," "designs and plans," "(subject) in art," etc. Other tools for finding images are discussed, including illustration and reproduction indexes, visual dictionaries, and image sites on the World Wide Web.

The Reach-Every-Student Model

The University of Florida Libraries employ a variety of approaches in an effort to reach most undergraduate students with formal library instruction. To a large extent, this is accomplished through instruction sessions aimed at the first-year English composition classes, with additional offerings of general library orientation sessions and Internet training for the general university population. While branch librarians and other subject specialists participate in these programs,

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ALA MIDWINTER CONFERENCE REPORTS

from LIRT Committees and Task Forces

Computer Applications Committee Report

David Levinson, Chair, Lake Forest College,
levinson@lfc.edu

Members Present: Barbara Cressman and David Levinson. Visitors: Vanessa Burford, Jane Ishibashi, Jane Rutherford, Haiwang Yuan.

During the meeting, discussion focused on a revision of the committee's role and goals. Attendees discussed alternative wording for the charge that would avoid becoming dated or tied to specific approaches to new technology. The new proposed charge states, the committee "develops resources for the use of computer technology in library instruction."

The subject then turned to an open discussion about current and future activities that might be undertaken. The current webliography project will be evaluated in terms of timeliness and availability of comparable projects. In a lively brainstorming session, attendees came up with several projects and topic areas they would like to see explored. Some projects included: software reviews for the LIRT News, creating tip sheets, guides to teaching GUI's (Graphic User Interfaces). Other areas attendees would like to see explored were courseware, designing online help, and interface design for instructional purposes.

Continuing Education Committee

Janet Sheets, Chair, Baylor University,
Janet_Sheets@baylor.edu

Members Present: Melba Kurman, Janet Sheets, Katherine Todd.

During the Midwinter meeting, the Continuing Education Committee completed its task of choosing the 20 best instruction articles published in 1997. Throughout the year committee members Mari Ellen Leverage, Melba Kurman, Kate Todd, and Janet Sheets have been reading and evaluating articles to narrow the list to the 38 articles which we discussed during our meetings. The Top 20 list will be published in the June issue of the LIRT News.

A second task assumed by the committee is the compiling of a bibliography to support the upcoming annual LIRT program. Melba Kurman accepted responsibility for the final bibliography and, after a discussion with the Program committee, we made plans for assisting her in discovering appropriate references.

Elections/Nominations Committee

Carole Hinshaw, Chair, University of Central Florida,
chinshaw@mail.ucf.edu

Members Present: Carol Derner, Carole Hinshaw, Kari Lucas, Elizabeth Margutti, Carol Penka.

The 1997-1998 Elections/Nominations Committee finalized a slate for the upcoming elections. Due to complications in identifying candidates for Vice-President/President-Elect, Hinshaw proposed a change to the bylaws to include special librarians in the rotation which includes school and public librarians. The committee will request that the Public Relations/Membership Committee supply a list of LIRT members each year. If possible, a break-down of library types would be useful. An updated list of past committee chairs will be compiled. Tim Grimes is running for ALA Council.

Liaison Committee

Michael Poma, Chair, Creighton University,
mapoma@creighton.edu

Members present: May Chau, Elaine Gass, Ellen Kessler, Michael Poma, Sharon Lee Stewart, Jennalyn Tellman.

The Liaison Committee continues its role as liaison to non-LIRT library instruction committees. Following discussion of who may become chair of the committee when the current chair's term expires, committee members looked over the conference meeting agenda and determined who would attend each meeting. Reports of meetings attended are included in this issue of the LIRT newsletter. Gale Burrow also attended the meeting briefly, and we discussed the need for additional committee members in order to continue to provide LIRT representation at all BI-related meetings.

Long Range Planning Committee

Alison Armstrong, co-chair, University of Cincinnati, alison.armstrong@uc.edu; Tim Grimes, co-chair, Ann Arbor (Michigan) District Library, tgrimes@tln.lib.mi.us

Members Present: Alison Armstrong, Gale Burrow (Ex-Officio), Marsha Forys (Ex-Officio), Tim Grimes, Linda Sammataro, Diana Shonrock, Maggie Zarnosky. Guests: Linda Chopra (Chair, 5-Year Financial Planning), Barbara Pilvin (5-year Financial Planning).

Barbara Conant resigned from the committee in Fall, 1997, and Alison Armstrong and Tim Grimes agreed to serve as co-chairs through 1998 Annual. M. Zarnosky volunteered to serve as recorder. Gale reported on her attendance at the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), updating the committee on the status of ALA Goals 2000 and "Beyond Goals 2000." She noted the emphasis on having strategic plans in place. This fits in with the work that LRP is doing with its Environmental Scan which will be used to help form the information base for a strategic plan. Tim reviewed the role and activities of the Financial Planning Task Force. Linda noted she was in the process of recruiting people to join the group. Assignments for activities and tasks were given.

In a second meeting, the committee discussed the idea that its role is to take information from the environmental scan, LIRT Retreat, and the PLA Strategic Plan and make a recommendation to Steering or Executive Board about a LIRT strategic plan. It was noted that the PLA plan was so similar to items discussed at the retreat, that rather than reinventing the wheel, the goal should be to build on a model that works. The committee will get information from Planning and Goals forms and feed that into the information base. The Five Year Financial Planning TF gave their report.

Newsletter Committee

David G. Sherwood, Chair, Creighton University, davids@creighton.edu

Members Present: Jana Edwards, David Sherwood.

After reviewing plans for upcoming issues of the newsletter, the committee's discussions centered on two important issues: methods of obtaining advertising revenue to offset the cost of producing the newsletter, and the need to encourage contributions from public, school, and special librarians. In order to address the latter issue, the chair will develop existing guidelines for contributors into a more detailed template which will make contributing easier. The template will be made available to potential contributors and will be posted to the LIRT web site.

As a preliminary effort to obtain advertising, the committee will identify publishers who might be interested and send them an announcement that the LIRT News now accepts ads.

Organization & Bylaws Committee

Kari Lucas, Chair, University of California, San Diego, klucas@ucsd.edu

Members Present: Chuck Dintrone, Kari Lucas, Mary Popp.

The committee will revise the LIRT manual and distribute it to new chairs by June 1, 1998. Bylaws changes are ready for a vote of the membership at annual conference in Washington, DC. (See proposed changes to the bylaws elsewhere in this issue.) Results of the LIRT Retreat will be forwarded to the co-chairs of the Long Range Planning Committee. The committee requests that chairs submit revised committee charges (refer to LIRT Manual and Bylaws for current wording) to the Organization & Bylaws Committee chair by March 1, 1998.

Program Committee

Cindy Krolikowski, Chair, Wayne State University, ac4979@wayne.edu

Members present: Anne Houston, Phillip Jones, Cindy Krolikowski.

The 1998 Conference Program Committee met twice at Midwinter. At the first meeting, the format for the program was decided. Most of the speakers are in place. Plans were made to attend both the LIRT and IS discussion forums on Sunday since the National Information Literacy Institute is part of our 1998 program.

Gale Burrows, Vice President/Chair Elect, attended the second meeting. The committee came up with three alternative titles for the program to submit to the Steering Committee for a vote. Also discussed was the need to supplement the current committee membership with new members.

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New Orleans Photos

Clockwise from the top right:
Lynn Ossolinski,
Mitch Stepanovich
and Billie Peterson

Volunteers are needed to staff the LIRT booth in Washington, D.C.



The Public Relations/Membership Committee of the Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT) is sponsoring an exhibit booth at the annual ALA conference in Washington D.C. By volunteering to staff the booth you have the opportunity to greet potential LIRT members, distribute information about LIRT and its activities, and exchange ideas with other librarians about library instruction.

If you can contribute a couple of hours of your time, please fill out the form below. If you are not a member of LIRT, helping at the booth is a great way to meet current members and find out more about the organization.

Please reply by June 1, 1998 to:

Marie Hayden
Sam Houston State University
Department of Library Science
P. O. Box 2236
Huntsville, Texas 77341
409-294-1969 or FAX 409-294-1153
E-Mail: LIS_FMH@SHSU.EDU



Name: _____ Phone (work): _____
 Institution: _____ Phone (home): _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____

Indicate your first (1) and second (2) preference for volunteering. You will be contacted prior to the conference regarding your schedule and will receive general information about the booth.

	9am-11am	11am-1pm	1pm-3pm	3pm-5pm	no preference
Saturday, June 27	_____	_____	_____	* _____	_____
Sunday, June 28	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Monday, June 29	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tuesday, June 30	_____	_____	_____	** _____	_____

*The exhibits close at 4pm on Saturday

** The exhibits close at 3pm on Tuesday

Have you staffed the LIRT booth before?

Are you a LIRT member?

yes _____ no _____

yes _____ no _____

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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Publications Committee

Harvey Gover, Chair, Washington State University,
hgover@beta.tricity.wsu.edu

Members Present: Teresa Ashley, Harvey Gover, Rob Morrison, Zary Mostashari, John Spencer.

The committee made the following decisions about the format of the planned bibliography of publishing opportunities outside library professional journals:

- Any professional journal outside librarianship which has published at least one article relating to libraries or librarianship may be included in the bibliography
- Journal titles will be arranged by broad subject categories using Ulrichs
- Will not supply current editor information, but will include address, society home page, e-mail address and phone numbers when possible
- Will indicate whether each journal is refereed

John Spencer volunteered to format the final draft which will, the committee projects, be ready by the annual conference. Gale Burrow agreed to assist the committee in publishing the bibliography through ALA.

The chair will attempt to find out why input received from Mark Knoblauch of the Office for Library Personnel Resources did not include revenue information about Diana Shonrock's book [Evaluating Library Instruction](#).

Public Relations/Membership

Linda Goff, Chair, ljgoff@csus.edu
Saturday, January 10, 1998

Members Present: Allisa Beck, Judy Clarence, Andy Corrigan, Linda J. Goff, Marie Hayden, Marcia King-Blandford, Pixey Mosley, Carolyn Strickland.

Forty people preregistered for the 3 Bites with LIRT lunches in New Orleans; actual attendance was 44. Andy Corrigan selected the restaurants, and Pixey Mosley took the registrations. The food was delicious! Pixey will continue to take reservations, and Barbara Pilvin will select restaurants in DC.

Linda Goff will be booth coordinator for Washington DC. Andy Corrigan has done this for the last 3 annual conferences and indicated that the \$200 allowance from ALA never covers the cost of the minimal furnishings we request. Executive and Steering Committees agreed to add \$200 for a second table and an electrical outlet. The committee decided to highlight activities of

the Round Table rather than just displaying samples of instructional materials. A laptop with screen-capture software will be available in Washington to display LIRT web pages, but a phone line was too costly. Marcia King-Blandford will create bookmarks with the URL of the LIRT home page.

For last year's conference in San Francisco, the committee collected materials on teaching the web and other electronic-based sources for displaying the booth and retired the binders of older material to Archives. Donna Kanapes will continue to obtain samples of up-to-date instructional material. Marie Hayden will again coordinate booth volunteers. Allisa Beck will run the prize drawing. Copies of Marilyn Whitmore's book will be offered as prizes.

Between November 30, 1996 and November 30, 1997, LIRT membership increased from 1,074 to 1,094, an increase of 1.862%. Overall, ALA Membership is down 1.5% with personal members down 2%. We are the only round table to increase members. Linda Goff attended the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force meeting Sunday and other round tables wanted to know our secret. The membership brochure will be reprinted before annual, but a web version is still in process.

Please send suggestions of who you would like to see profiled in the Member A-LIRT column to Judy Clarence (jclarenc@csuhayward.edu) or Marcia King Blandford (mkingbl@utet.utoledo.edu).

Research Committee

Jim Kapoun, Chair, Southwest State University,
kapoun@ssu.southwest.msus.edu

Members Present: Sherry DeDecker, Rachel Fenske, Jim Kapoun, Kathy Kie, Nerea Llamas, Eliane Nowack, Gina Persichini, Joan Ruelle, Esteban Valdez.

The research committee reviewed its web page which is now loaded on the LIRT Home Page. The page contains information on web tutorials in the following subject areas: how to do research, searching the Internet, subject specific guides, how to design a tutorial, and a bibliography. The site is updated regularly.

The committee has embarked on a new project to create brochures on the following topics :

- Presentation Skills
- Crisis Management
- Classroom Management
- Classroom Materials
- Technology in the Classroom ■



Member A-LIRT

David Sherwood

by Pixey Ann Mosley,
pamosley@tamu.edu

This issue's noteworthy LIRT member is the newsletter editor, David Sherwood. As he answered the interview questions, it became apparent that David is a dedicated and involved Instruction Librarian. His official title, Reference Librarian, Internet and Support Services Coordinator at the Reinert/Alumni Library, Creighton University, does not begin to describe his enthusiasm for his two self-avowed professional obsessions: instruction and technology. When asked about his favorite and least favorite job activities, David indicated that his favorite tasks involve coordinating and teaching an Internet training series, called Internet 101, for faculty, staff, and students. The least favorite part of his job is having so many non-instructional responsibilities.

David's philosophy toward instruction can be helpful to other librarians who are trying to fit instructional activities into a limited slot. He states that, "to my way of thinking, every contact I have with a library client should be about instruction." Additionally, students should not only find the information needed right now, but should also learn to be more independent information seekers. Instruction is a matter of "teaching them to analyze their topics, identify the kind of information they need, select appropriate tools, and use the tools effectively to locate information that will help them." He says the toughest challenge of the future will be teaching students to be both digital and analog information seekers.

David's research, professional publications and presentations have definitely supported his interest in technology issues and applications. He has written about his Internet 101 Workshop Series, electronic publishing issues, and the use of a library web site as an instructional tool. He also serves as his library's webmaster. He finds it "fascinating to try to help users understand and more effectively use technology, but it is the human part of that dynamic that is most interesting."

David was introduced to LIRT by Billie Peterson and Kari Lucas before he even started library school.

While finishing his MA thesis in English, David worked in the Reference Department in the library at Baylor University. Confronted with an emerging interest in libraries, David juggled both academic interests. Fortunately for us, he decided to become a librarian. Since 1994, when he turned in a committee volunteer form, David has generously served LIRT. Initially assigned to the Liaison committee, David moved to the Newsletter and was appointed Chair and Editor in his second year on the committee. He feels rewarded for his efforts when he holds the printed newsletter in his hand or points his browser to the web edition and sees the work completed. He takes pride in knowing that the newsletter committee's work has come together to keep the membership informed. Finally, he feels that LIRT News can be more fun to edit and to read than most professional publications because the articles are "substantive and informative, but not in a heavy-handed, academic way."

David is also involved with the Nebraska Library Association as a member of the College and University Section. He has worked in the ALA booth and gave a presentation at the last state conference. Supporting his interest in technology, he attended last year's LITA/LAMA conference in Pittsburgh. David has already left his mark at Creighton University. In the summer of 1996, he became the first librarian to be appointed a fellow of the US West Academic Development and Instructional Technology Center.

In his spare time, David looks after a 7-year-old Shetland Sheepdog named Trevor and a 12-year-old cat named Charlotte Sophia. He also sings in the choir and serves on the vestry of the Episcopal Church of St. Barnabas. One constant in his life is that he never misses an episode of the British sit-com "Keeping up Appearances." LIRT is very fortunate to have an individual such as David as an active participant.

Pixey Anne Mosley is the Coordinator of Instructional Services at Texas A&M University and a member of LIRT's PR/Membership Committee. ■

Tim Grimes Runs for ALA Council

by Carole Hinshaw, chinshaw@mail.ucf.edu

When you receive your ballot, please take the time to identify librarians with strong instructional backgrounds, or other Round Table backgrounds and, most importantly, **vote**. Currently, there is no representative for Round Tables at Council meetings. It is especially important that library instruction have a voice in these professional meetings.

Tim Grimes, one of LIRT's most active members, is running for ALA Council this year. Members are encouraged to vote for Tim, who has served as LIRT President, Treasurer, and as chair of several committees. These experiences testify to his ability to serve and to represent LIRT interests in Council.

Currently the Associate Director of Bibliographic Services and Community Relations at Ann Arbor (Michigan) District Library, Tim has been an active member of ALA since the mid-1980's, and has served in PLA and RUSA, in addition to LIRT. Tim has been a member of the Round Table Coordinating Committee, representative to the ALA Planning and Budget Assembly, and representative to the ALA Literacy Council. His state professional activities include Michigan Library Association, Michigan Author Award Committee, Beta Phi Mu, Board of Directors, and Southeast Michigan Adult Reading Roundtable cofounder.

STATEMENT OF CONCERN:

Tim offers the following thoughts as his statement of professional concern:

"Whether employed in public, school, special, or university libraries, library staff today are faced with constant change. The rapid introduction of new technologies and cyberspace resources have noticeably heightened user expectation. Traditional reference, and reader's advisory services must now be supplemented with technological expertise. Library managers are also faced with new training and development needs as workforce demands increase. The library profession has undergone enormous transformation.

"ALA Council must respond to this rapid shifting of the library landscape. Council members must be proactive leaders of the profession, anticipating change and forging new directions. We cannot merely react as old environments and patterns of thought are replaced and remodeled. Change is now part of our profession; it is imperative that we be ready to actively manage it."

Carole Hinshaw is the Coordinator of Library Instruction at the University of Central Florida and chair of the LIRT Elections Committee. ■

Keep Up with LIRT

LIRT-L is a moderated discussion forum open to anyone with an interest in LIRT's activities. Joining the list is especially helpful for those who cannot attend conferences, but who would like to remain informed about and contribute to the Library Instruction Round Table's work. Because traffic on the list is moderated, irrelevant and misdirected messages do not clog the inboxes of LIRT-L subscribers. (LIRT-L is not intended to be a forum for general discussion of library instruction issues. Those interested in such discussions should use BI-L at listserv@bingvmb.cc.binghamton.edu.)

GETTING SUBSCRIBED TO THE LIST

To subscribe to LIRT-L, send the following message:

subscribe lirt-l firstname lastname

To the following address:

listproc@baylor.edu

SENDING MESSAGES TO THE LIST

After subscribing to LIRT-L, send your messages to:

lirt-l@baylor.edu



CHECK THESE OUT!

Mary Pagliero Popp, Indiana University Libraries

Feeling overwhelmed? With good reason! Libraries and information resources are changing faster than the speed of light. Read on for some good ideas to help you keep up.

NEW COLUMNS & SERIES

Two new columns have recently debuted. They are focused on a school library audience, but they contain useful information for all who do instruction. The first, "Key Words in Instruction," by Daniel Callison appears in School Library Media Activities Monthly. Callison provides a good overview of key concepts, definitions of important terms, and relates research results to the school library. Recent topics include:

"Mental Models." 14 (Dec. 1997): 37-39, 45.

"Authentic Assessment." 14 (Jan. 1998): 42-43, 50.

"Facilitator." [instructional facilitator or coach] 14 (Feb. 1998): 40-42.

Michael Eisenberg, co-creator of the Big Six Library Skills concept, has begun a new 6-part series in Emergency Librarian. Beginning in the September/October 1997, each issue contains a one page summary called "Big Six Tips: Teaching Information Problem Solving," providing teaching tips for one of the Big Six Library Skills.

GOOD READING

Cooper, Eric A. "Library Guides on the Web: Traditional Tenets and Internal Issues." Computers in Libraries. 17 (Oct. 1997): 52-56.

Reviews basic design principles for library guides on the Web, and discusses the need to plan for a broader audience than the audience for printed handouts.

Eliassen, Karen, Jill McKinstry, Beth Mabel Fraser, and Elizabeth P. Babbitt. "Navigating Online Menus: A Quantitative Experience." College & Research Libraries. 58 (Nov. 1997): 509-516.

If you help design the menus for your library web site or other information resources, read this article! The authors describe their study at the University of Washington which showed significant improvements in user ability to find appropriate resources when items were grouped and more descriptive text was added.

Goodliffe, Stephanie. "Notes of a Successful Internet Trainer." Internet Trend Watch for Libraries 2 (Nov. 1997). Online. Available: <http://www.itwfl.com/goodliffe.html> (January 30, 1998).

A librarian who teaches the Internet to users in a public library without training facilities shares her tips for success.

Hammond, Carol and Eleanor Mitchell. "Library Instruction for the Professions: Information Needs and Libraries." RSR 25.2 (1997): 79-87.

Presents results of a survey of Arizona professionals in accounting, architecture, psychology and recreation to find out their information needs, how they use information and libraries, and their need for information literacy skills. The authors make recommendations for changing library instruction for professionals.

Lipman, Cynthia and Marcia King-Blandford. "Innovation and Collaboration Brings Forth a New Approach to Bibliographic Instruction: Teach the Teachers." Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery & Information Supply 8.2 (1997): 21-31.

Describes a program at the University of Toledo developed to replace the traditional one-shot lecture/demonstration for English composition classes. Librarians train composition instructors to teach library and information skills to their students, using a special training workshop and individual appointments with instructors. Handouts and other support materials are prepared by the librarians.

What are Intelligent Search Agents???
Librarians? Read Tech Talk, page 16...



CHECK THESE OUT!

continued from page 14...

McDermott, Irene E. "Solitaire Confinement: The Impact of the Physical Environment on Computer Training." Computers in Libraries 18 (Jan. 1998): 22-27. (Also available online: <http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/jan/story1.htm>.)

Suggestions for layout, computer desks, and student workstation control software for the electronic classroom. Includes vendor information.

IN BRIEF

Abilock, Debbie. "The Gestalt of Online Searching." Multimedia Schools 4 (Nov. 1997): 22-28. (Also available online at: <http://www.infotoday.com/MMSchools/nov97/story.htm>.)

Astin, Alexander. "The Changing American College Student: Thirty-Year Trends, 1966-1996." Review of Higher Education 21 (1998): 115-135.

Dewey, Barbara I. "In Search of Practical Applications: A Public Services Research Agenda for University Libraries." Journal of Academic Librarianship 23 (Sept. 1997): 371-379.

Hahn, Susan E. "Internet: Let the User Beware." RSR 22.2 (1997): 7-13. [Annotated bibliography]

Knight, Lorrie A. "Locating Public Domain Images: Some Sites to Visit to Enhance Your Web Pages." College & Research Libraries News 59 (Jan. 1998): 11-13.

McGuire, Patience Lea. "Developmentally Appropriate Library Media Skills Instruction." School Library Media Activities Monthly 14 (Feb. 1998): 22-28. [Grades 1-5]

Mary Pagliero Popp is Information Technologies Public Services Librarian at Indiana University Bloomington Libraries. E-mail: popp@indiana.edu ■

Studio Art and Design

continued from page 7...

to a large extent they concentrate their instructional efforts in course-related, subject-specific sessions.

At the AFA Library, we have extended the "reach-every-student" model to our own clientele. All art majors (both studio and art history) enroll in Workshop for Art Research and Practice (W.A.R.P.), a combined lecture/studio course emphasizing experiential learning, collaboration, and experimentation. The architecture program begins similarly with Design I, a course which combines beginning studio skills with an understanding of architectural history. By targeting these two courses, we are able to reach all core-level art and architecture students.

Reaching Upper-Level Students

Library instruction for upper level studios can be illustrated by describing a recent session offered to Senior Graphic Design, a studio course with significant emphasis on design history. In this case, the librarian brought the "library" to the studio, a networked classroom where every student has his or her own computer for design and research. These students were working on a project in which they were required to research varying perspectives (historical, cultural, visual) relating to an "artifact" of their own choosing. This provided an excellent opportunity for the librarian to introduce multi-disciplinary resources available online, and to help refine the students' database searching skills. General resources (both print and electronic) were discussed in addition to addressing the current assignment.

It is interesting to note that the two pieces of information that seemed to spark the most interest in the young designers were (1) the call number range for typography, and (2) the existence of visual dictionaries. Perhaps this illustrates that for the visual artist, "informed" browsing can often be the most successful search strategy.

Ann Lindell is Assistant Librarian at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, University of Florida. ■

Dear Tech Talk—

I recently attended a meeting where I heard another librarian mention that we shouldn't be "afraid" of intelligent search agents — instead, we should embrace them. I thought "librarians" were intelligent search agents! So . . . if not librarians, what/who is an "intelligent search agent?"

—Anxious About Agents

Dear AAA—

Intelligent agents are computer programs designed to help people perform tasks more efficiently on computers. An elementary example of intelligent agents, with which many people have had experience, is the use of "wizards" that appear in spread sheet programs or the Windows 95 operating system. Wizards guide the user through a series of steps which accomplish a particular task. The "wizard" saves the user time because s/he doesn't have to refer to a manual.

Intelligent search agents are computer programs designed to help people find and manage information more effectively and efficiently. The ideal Internet intelligent search agent would be able to:

- Formulate effective search strategies from natural language requests;
- Negotiate with other agents the best places to retrieve the specific information;
- Execute search strategies in various search engines, using the most appropriate search strategy for that search engine;

- Revise search strategies automatically, by "learning" from the user's selection activities what is and is not relevant;
- Remove duplicate references from search results;
- Recognize and remove dead-end links from search results;
- Re-execute searches on a periodic schedule to maintain the user's awareness of new information.

With an intelligent search agent such as this, the user would no longer have to decide which search engine(s) to use, how to best formulate the search for each specific search engine, look through screens of duplicates, click on broken links, or remember which search strategy was the most successful. The search results would be both manageable in size and of higher relevance. Sound too good to be true? It is. The technology isn't quite to this level of sophistication — yet. However, computer scientists and research and development units are experimenting with agent technology and developing both web-based and desktop computer-based prototypes.

One of the major differences between the behavior of intelligent agents and other computer programs, is that traditional computer programs perform their operations based on a set of known (to the program), fixed rules. Intelligent agents perform their operations using a knowledge database that they continually create based on their evaluation of the action of the program and of the reaction of the user. Therefore, the future behavior of the agent should improve as its knowledge database grows. The agent "learns" from its "master," the user.

Following are some descriptions of a few programs and resources that use, to some extent, aspects of intelligent agent technology. Inclusion on the list does not constitute an endorsement or evaluation of the source. Additional examples are found at <URL: <http://www.cs.umbc.edu/agents/agents.shtml>>.

Autonomy

<URL: <http://www.agentware.com>>

A Windows-based program that uses the metaphor of "dogs" as its interface, with each dog representing an agent that can be trained (and retrained) to find specific information available on the World Wide Web.

BargainFinder

<URL: <http://bf.cstar.ac.com/bf/>>

Enter a musician's or an album name, and receive a list of the prices for the CD from about 10 online CD stores. The agent aspect of this service then sends the query, correctly formatted, to each store's database and compiles and displays the results. Click on the link for the least expensive CD to order it from the store.

Farcast

<URL: <http://www.farcast.com/>>

With this fee-based service, agents are used to create a personalized news service which draws its information from major newsfeeds and delivers the news to your e-mail address.

LifeStyle Finder

<URL: <http://lifestyle.cstar.ac.com/lifestyle>>

This purely-for-fun, web-based resource uses demographic information to predict web sites that would be of interest to you based on choices made in answering questions posed by "Waldo." When done, you can indicate which of the recommended sites really do meet your interests and tell "Waldo" how well it did with its predictions.

PointCast

<URL: <http://www.pointcast.com/>>

With this free software, available for Windows and Macintosh platforms, you can set up a personalized news profile (the agent) which the PointCast Network uses to deliver current news to your desktop.

WebCompass

<URL: <http://arachnid.qdeck.com/qdeck/products/wc20/main.html>>

A windows-based program that is configured to search 35+ Internet search engine databases, rank search results by relevance, build comprehensive summaries of search results, organize results by topic, update results, and use search results to refine further searches.

As human "intelligent search agents," librarians should monitor developments with intelligent agent technology. Although intelligent search agents have the potential for greatly simplifying the effective retrieval of relevant information from the Internet, the need will still exist for competent information professionals to assist users in making the most effective use of these new tools.

For more information:

Makulowich, John. "Alert and News Services." Online 21 (March/April 1997):82-84.

Tegenbos, Jef and Paul Nieuwenhuysen. "My Kingdom for an Agent? Evaluation of Autonomy, An Intelligent Search Agent for the Internet." Online & CDROM Review 21 (June 1, 1997):139-145.

Tudor, Jan Davis. "The New Alchemy: Using Droids & Agents to Treat Information Overload." Online 21 (November/December 1997):50-56

UMBC AgentWeb

<URL: <http://www.cs.umbc.edu/agents/>>

Verity

<URL: <http://www.verity.com>> ■

As always, send questions and comments to:

Snail Mail: Tech Talk
Billie Peterson
Moody Memorial Library
P. O. Box 97148
Waco, TX 76798-7148
E-Mail: peterstonb@baylor.edu

NON-LIRT MEETINGS AT ALA IN NEW ORLEANS

1998 ALA Midwinter Conference, New Orleans, LA

ACRL/ECLSS Guidelines Committee

January 11, 1998, 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Chair/Convener: Harvey Gover

The long-awaited update to the "Guidelines for Extended Academic Library Services" passed the last hurdle in ACRL during the Midwinter Conference. It will be sent to the ALA Standards Committee for final approval at the annual conference this summer. Of interest to LIRT is the planned addition of a statement about lifelong learning skills through information literacy instruction as one of the precepts in the section entitled "Philosophy." Also the "Services," section addresses programs "of library user instruction designed to instill independent and effective information literacy skills while specifically meeting the learner-supported needs of the extended academic community." The committee also decided to go forward with the guidelines without a section on outcomes assessment, but a task force will develop a statement to be added at a later date. Approximately 6 attended.

-Reported by Sharon Lee Stewart, University of Alabama, Sstewart@gorgas.Lib.ua.edu

ACRL/IS Education for Library Instructors Committee

January 10, 1998, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and January 11, 1998, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Chair/Convener: Steve Thomas

The committee is developing an annotated bibliography on the subject of instructing librarians to teach. This bibliography is based on one developed by a former chair of the committee. Subtopics members will pursue before a June 15 deadline are: 1) evaluation of learning, and 2) learning theory and cognitive styles.

New Orleans Photos

LIRT Secretary Marsha Forys is caught unaware, while taking notes.



Another project concerning an annotated bibliography of doctoral dissertations on the subject of library instruction was given the go-ahead. A subcommittee will develop criteria to judge the manuscripts for inclusion and will expand the list to include master's theses. Dissemination of the bibliographies from these projects is intended to be through the ACRL website.

The committee also discussed the National Information Literacy Institute and contributions the committee could make to a website issuing from the IS preconference "Learning to Teach." Approximately 12 attended each meeting.

-Reported by Sharon Lee Stewart, University of Alabama, Sstewart@gorgas.Lib.ua.edu and Jennalyn Tellman, University of Arizona, Jennalyn@Library.arizona.edu

ACRL/IS Instruction for Diverse Populations Committee

Saturday, January 10, 2:00 -4:00 p.m.

Chair/Convener: Chris Ramsdell

This committee is moving forward on several projects. Members are drafting a survey to evaluate effectiveness of instruction sessions while illustrating concern for the diverse populations being surveyed. Survey drafts may be available on the web later. The committee's video project, which would have featured reference interactions between librarians and actors representing members of diverse populations, has been abandoned. Committee members were concerned that the video could reinforce stereotyping. Another ongoing project - a glossary in which library terms have been defined in English and translated into 5 common languages—has been moved to ACRL's Communications Committee. This project includes research which has been submitted for publication.

The committee is also working on ideas for programs to be offered at future ALA conferences. Ideas being explored include a program to help librarians assess research skill levels of international students in their library instruction sessions. Thirteen people attended.

-Reported by Ellen Kessler, Queens Borough Public Library, Ellenk@queens.lib.ny.us

ACRL/IS Management of Instruction Services Committee

January 10, 1998, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Chair/Convener: Abigail Loomis

The Management of Instruction Services Committee is working on a website (not yet publicly available) to enhance the abilities of academic and research librarians involved in bibliographic instruction. This site will include teaching resources, such as a 10-point, step-by-step tip sheet to help librarians with new bibliographic instruction responsibilities learn how to teach. It can also provide guidelines for library management to monitor and guide the teaching progress of new BI librarians. A list of resource persons who can serve as informal, personalized mentors for new professionals has also been discussed. Once complete, this website will be linked to ACRL's website.

*-Reported by May Chau, Oregon State University
chaum@ccmail.orst.edu*

ACRL/IS Research and Scholarship Committee

January 12, 1998, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Chair/Convener: Barbara McAdam

At Midwinter, this new committee met for the first time. The members developed a statement that forms the parameters of the subject area they will research for the next six months. The subject is the "assessment of learning outcomes and teaching and delivery methods applicable to formal library instruction." The research will entail conducting a literature review of library and non-library publications, asking for experts to come forward through a BI-L query, contacting LOEX about existing materials, and touching base with other ACRL research committees. Approximately 15 attended.

--Reported by Sharon Lee Stewart, University of Alabama, Sstewart@gorgas.Lib.ua.edu

ACRL/IS Teaching Methods Committee

January 10, 1998, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Chair/Convener: Kevin Roddy

This meeting was preceded by a brainstorming session sponsored by the committee on "Distance Education and Library Instruction: The Brave New World." It was felt that most librarians who attended the session were new to distance education and wanted to learn what others were doing. Ideas included having a link to the library's home page from the professor's Web page for the class, and giving library instruction at remote campuses on the weekend.

The Active Learning Sourcebook the group has been working on should be available at the Annual meeting. The committee wants to develop a Web site that lists online tutorials that have been critically evaluated according to the Argus Clearinghouse Rating System. The review would be included next to the link to access the tutorial. Approximately 10 attended.

*-Reported by Elaine Gass, Texas A & M University
Elaineg@tamu.edu*

ACRL/LPSS Bibliographic Instruction Discussion Group

January 11, 1998, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Chair/Convener: John Stemmer

This lively discussion, sponsored by the ACRL/LPSS Library Instruction Committee, strayed at times from its intended focus on law and political science but brought out many issues of importance to all BI practitioners. Issues addressed included the impact on instruction of the movement from standalone sources to web-based access, new teaching techniques and approaches that become necessary once hands-on opportunities are made available, the creation of individual web pages to support teaching content, how to manage large-group instruction, and how to acquaint faculty with the growing array of new electronic resources. It appeared that most attendees came away with practical information they could apply to their home environments. Approximately 20 attended the session.

*-Reported by Michael Poma, Creighton University
Mapoma@creighton.edu*

continued on page 20...

New Orleans Photos



Representatives and chairpersons from the various standing committees share their reports at the LIRT Steering Committee meeting on Monday evening.

(Photos by Kari Lucas and David Sherwood)

NON-LIRT MEETINGS

continued from page 19...

ALA Committee on Education

January 11, 1998, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Chair/Convener: Carolyn Anthony

The meeting began with a report from the committee on foreign credentials. Some issues of concern include the fact that the present temporary basis for the process lacks specificity and the fact that individuals, rather than foreign institutions, are accredited. This issue is on the IFLA agenda; however, they have not taken action yet. A motion was made and approved to recommend UK and Australian accreditation be recognized by ALA. A motion was made and approved to accept ALISE as a co-sponsor of the ALA Committee on Education's program at the summer 1998 annual meeting. A motion was also made and approved to recommend that ALA Council include an ALISE member slot on the ALA Committee on Education. The group discussed whether there were sufficient resources to support a Continuing Education Clearinghouse and plans for a website containing pertinent information. The committee also discussed a report from the Task Force on Accrediting Library Technicians, competencies for serving young adults, and ideas for upcoming conference programs. Approximately 20 people attended.

*-Reported by Jennalyn Tellman, University of Arizona
Jennalyn@Library.arizona.edu*

Discussion Forum: NILI

continued from page 1...

The NILI steering group sought feedback from LIRT about two issues, and these issues provided a structure for the discussion: (1) what should a NILI institute offer, and (2) what skills should a NILI graduate gain?

Some of the suggestions and observations offered by forum participants are listed below:

About the Institute Format

- The institute should be offered to any librarian who needs it, not just new librarians.
- The institute should be more than a singular event.
- A train the trainer format would be more useful back in the workplace.
- If conducted in one's own area, attendance might be higher.

About Skills Needed by Librarians—

- Curriculum planning, course preparation
- Learning theory, learning styles, teaching styles, and their use in creating handouts
- Developing leadership roles in the workplace and promoting the profession
- How to be more relaxed and comfortable in public speaking
- How to distinguish basic information concepts from current fads

Feedback from the LIRT Discussion Forum has been forwarded to the NILI steering group and will be combined with feedback from other groups in determining the final format and content of NILI activities. Check future issues of LIRT News, tune into LIRT-L, or consult the NILI web page <<http://www.ala.org/acrl/nili.html>> for additional developments.

Mitch Stepanovich is Architecture Librarian at the University of Texas at Arlington and LIRT Publicity Coordinator. ■

ALSC Teachers of Children's Literature Discussion Group

January 11, 1998, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The attendees discussed their experiences teaching college-level courses on children's literature and shared assignments. Two people attended.

*-Reported by Elaine Gass, Texas A & M University
Elaineg@tamu.edu ■*

Teaching the Teaching Librarian

LIRT Program, ALA Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.



Bylaws Changes Proposed

Kari Lucas, Chair, Organization & Bylaws Committee, klucas@ucsd.edu

Proposed below are changes to the LIRT Bylaws. Voting on these proposed changes will take place at the All Committees Meeting at the ALA Annual Conference on Saturday, June 27, 1998, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Results of the vote will be published in the September edition of LIRT News.

The changes to SECTION V. A-E will serve to clarify roles and responsibilities of committee members and chairs. The responsibilities of LIRT committees have changed over time to reflect the impact of technology and realignments of the Round Table. However, these changes are difficult to reflect since each change now requires that the Bylaws be modified by a vote of the membership. The proposed change in SECTION V. F. names the standing committees only. By reassigning committee descriptions to the LIRT Manual, fewer Bylaws changes will be needed and committee descriptions can be more easily updated.

Section V. Standing Committees

A. Members of standing committees shall be appointed by the Vice-President/President-Elect, in consultation with the President, of the Round Table, who will designate one member as chair.

B. Membership appointments shall be for two years, overlapping so that no more than one-half of

the members shall be retired in one year. Appointments to the same committee shall not exceed two consecutive terms.

C. Committee Chair appointments are for one year terms and may be appointed once. Chairs shall submit an Annual Report at the close of the ALA Annual Conference.

D. Committee composition shall consist of members from academic, school, public, and special libraries. No committee shall consist of members from only one type of library.

E. Committees shall meet at ALA Annual and Midwinter conferences.

F. The Standing Committees are as follows:

1. Computer Applications Committee
2. Conference Program Planning Committee
3. Continuing Education Committee
4. Election/Nomination Committee
5. Liaison Committee
6. Long Range Planning Committee
- 6a. 5 Year Financial Planning Subcommittee
7. Newsletter Committee
8. Organization and Bylaws Committee
9. Professional Association Networking Committee
10. Public Relations/Membership Committee
11. Publications Committee
12. Research Committee

News-Bites

continued from page 2...

Sylvia Nicholas-Moin, Reference Librarian at Northwestern University's Health Sciences Library, wrote a short biography, "Sofia Simmonds," for Notable Women in the Physical Sciences: A Biographical Dictionary (Greenwood Publishing, 1997).
E-mail: s-nicholas@nwu.edu

Ru Story-Huffman, Public Services Librarian, Cumberland College, whose first book, Nursery Rhyme Time, was published by Highsmith in 1996, has signed

a contract with Highsmith to author two new books on using award-winning children's literature and the Internet. The first book will appear in Summer 1998.
E-mail: rshuff@cc.cumber.edu

Do you have a new job or a promotion? Have you published an article or given a presentation? Received an award from grateful patrons or high officialdom? Send your own news or notes about fellow LIRT members to the editor:

David Sherwood, Reinert/Alumni Library, Creighton University, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178,
E-mail: davids@creighton.edu. ■

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE STANDING COMMITTEES

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: Examines how computers are used in library instruction. Promotes the use of computers by publishing a bibliography on computer applications for BI and maintaining a clearinghouse for information on computer software.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM: Plans the LIRT program for the ALA Annual Conference. Makes arrangements for speakers, room, handouts, and activities during the program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: Conducts research and develops plans, actual materials, and directories to further the education and help meet the information needs of librarians engaged in user education.

ELECTIONS/NOMINATING: Prepares a slate of candidates for LIRT offices and maintains records on procedures, candidates, and election results. Solicits volunteers for LIRT committees and maintains files of prospective committee appointees.

LIAISON: Attends and reports to LIRT Steering Committee and members about committees within ALA involved in library instruction activities. Distributes to conference attendees a listing of instruction-related programs and meetings at ALA Conferences.

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Develops short and long range plans for LIRT. Implements planning and operations for the activities of LIRT. Chaired by the president-elect.

ORGANIZATION AND BYLAWS: Reviews, revises, and updates the organization manual of LIRT. Recommends to the Executive Board, and through it to LIRT members, the establishment, functions, and discontinuance of committees and task forces. Maintains the Constitution and Bylaws of LIRT and recommends amendments to those documents.

NEWSLETTER: Solicits articles, prepares and distributes the LIRT newsletter. The Executive Board of LIRT serves as the Editorial Board for the LIRT newsletter.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION NETWORKING: Maintains information about and communicates with national, state, and regional library instruction groups. Maintains the Directory of Bibliographic Instruction and Related Groups.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/MEMBERSHIP: Publicizes LIRT purposes, activities, and promotes membership in LIRT. Develops brochures and news releases to inform members, prospective members, and the library profession about LIRT activities. Sponsors an exhibit booth at the Annual Conference. Organizes BITES (meals for instruction librarians to meet for food and discussion) at the Midwinter and Annual conferences.

PUBLICATIONS: Establishes, maintains, and disseminates LIRT Publication Guidelines. Solicits ideas for publications and advises as to the appropriate means for publication. The LIRT newsletter editor and assistant editor are ex-officio members of this committee.

RESEARCH: Identifies, reviews, and disseminates information about in-depth, state-of-the-art research concerning library instruction for all types of libraries. Pinpoints areas where further investigation about library instruction is needed with a view toward the development of research proposals.

Committee Appointments are for 2 years. Appointments begin at the close of the annual conference and continue through the close of the annual conference in two years.

For more information, contact Gale Burrow, telephone: (909) 621-8150, e-mail: gburrow@rocky.claremont.edu, or see the address on the Committee Volunteer Form on next page.



Library Instruction Round Table COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER FORM

If you are interested in serving on a LIRT Committee, please complete this form and mail it to the Vice-President/President Elect of LIRT:

**Gale Burrow
Honnold/Mudd Library
800 Dartmouth Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711**

NAME and TITLE:

TELEPHONE:

HOME:

WORK:

FAX:

E-Mail:

INSTITUTIONAL ADDRESS:

*(star * preferred mailing address)*

HOME ADDRESS:

DATE OF APPLICATION:

LIRT COMMITTEE PREFERENCES: (Use the numbers 1-9 to indicate order of preference, with 1 being the most preferred. If you are willing to serve as recorder for this group, follow your number preference with the letter "R")

Computer Applications
 Conference Programs
 Continuing Education
 Elections/Nominations
 Liaison
 Long-Range Planning

Newsletter
 Organizational/Bylaws
 Professional Association Networking
 PR/Membership
 Publications
 Research

CAN YOU REGULARLY ATTEND LIRT MEETINGS AT THE ALA MIDWINTER AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES? YES NO

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET LISTING COMMITTEES OR OFFICES (IF ANY) PREVIOUSLY HELD IN LIRT, ALA OR STATE/REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, WITH YEARS OF SERVICE.



Library Instruction Round Table News
c/o Lorelle Swader
American Library Association
50 E. Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611