

Minutes of Oklahoma ACRL Council on Information Literacy, Friday, February 25, 2005, 1 p.m. Stillwater Public Library

Members present: Kate Corbett, David Oberhelman, Helen Clements, Barbara Miller, Melissa Huffman, Tom Thorisch, Lauren Donaldson, Debbie Nelson, Jason Dupree, Janet Croft, Kiem Ta.

The Minutes were approved as read (with two typos to be corrected).

Website – David indicated he could take this over from Kelly Brown, the former web master. It is housed on the OSU server. He will check with Kelly to see whether she is interested in continuing. Kate asked if we could check with Kelly about hosting a COIL meeting at her institution, the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha. Kate indicated that we should put more links on the site, such as links to ACRL instruction pages.

David and Barbara reminded everyone of the OLA/LED workshop on library cooperation, March 11 at Rose State. Much of the cooperation discussed centered on instruction, so would be beneficial to COIL members. Barbara mentioned that there were several school librarians at this workshop, interested in cooperation. Kate indicated an interest in having a joint meeting with COIL and school librarians, in the summer. David pointed out that Sharon Morrison, who will speak at this workshop, has a cooperative program in place at her library. Kate has had talks with the Coyle school librarian at Langston, and might invite her to a summer workshop. It was also suggested to attend the Texas Library Assn. Meetings to get new ideas. Barbara will check with a colleague at North Texas to find out who is doing Education in Texas. Barbara mentioned attending the ACRL online workshops, on Best Practices in Information Literacy. Janet noted that at OU they do this type of workshop in a group.

Members of the group discussed various problems and solutions in instruction. Barbara has a hard time teaching Serials Solutions to students, because each page comes up with a different interface and the students are confused. Lauren reported that Deborah Thompson uses a trick called table tents, folded pieces of board with a name and keyword on the board. The students then discuss more words and questions. Jason uses three columns and three rows, in a grid, to explain keywords and subjects, and the Boolean operators *and* and *or*.

Kate presented a survey to be distributed to libraries, asking what instruction they do and what methods they use. The group discussed what questions should be included. Tom has started using an assessment tool. He has mixed levels of students in his classes, and feels he has to assess needs first, then objectives in the class (the skills and concepts to be learned). He uses a short assessment sheet, where students can indicate what is important and what not important in the class. This tells him what the class learned and what ideas he did not get across. He asks questions such as “Should all research be remotely done,” and “What search do you prefer?” David reminded everyone that if we do a survey we need IRB approval at most institutions. We have to have the goals of the survey and ask questions which would have qualitative answers. Long term data could then go to the state regents, who would be interested in this. We could also do a web survey, which might bring better response.

Debbie Nelson reported that she has multi tasking problems. How can she plan out a program? It was mentioned that planning the standards you are working towards should be done first. We might ask questions about planning and assessment. Others mentioned the need for a web page on a campus library page, with classes available on various levels. We also could put a self-following online tutorial up. The CLIP program at NOSU is a start, but must be updated often. Kate uses business card sized “green cards”, with basic information on them on how to do simple searches. Tom focuses on essentials and then adds one idea at a time. David is attending a LOEX meeting, stressing the Bare Necessities. Are we asking whether a BI or IL approach works best? WE need to know what the state goals are for IL. OCALD might be a group to ask for this information. What should be the components of statewide information literacy? Include both concepts and skills. Best practices would mean all teaching librarians at each institution would be doing the same thing. All those who attended the meeting agreed to create a list of questions that they want to see on the survey. At the next meeting, we will compile the questions for the survey.

We need a new workshop topic for this summer. It was suggested to go beyond the beginning topics of last summer. David suggested Jane Bowerman at OU on learning styles. We might also tackle course design. Cecy Brown would be a good speaker. David, Tom, Kate and Barbara volunteered to be a sub committee to work on the workshop ideas. They will meet in March. Barbara suggested teaching a govdocs class, with which the attendees might not be familiar, so they can see which learning styles work best.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.