

### *ACRL Immersion*

Immersion is an intense four-day workshop dedicated to training librarians and instructors in different aspects of information literacy. Immersion has four separate tracks that participants can apply for: **Teacher Track**, to enhance, refresh, or extend individual instruction skills; **Program Track**, to develop institutional and programmatic information literacy programs; **Assessment: Demonstrating the Educational Value of the Library Track**; how to use and understand assessment as an important tool to guide evidence-based classroom, curriculum and program development; and **Intentional Teaching: Reflective Teaching to Improve Student Learning Track**, a learner-centered teaching program.

ACRL Immersion Programs are competitive and require a lengthy application as well as letters of recommendation. They are also expensive. The cost to send one individual to Immersion is:

$$\begin{array}{r} \$1,895.00 \text{ (Immersion program)} \\ + \text{Lodging and travel (held at various universities)} \\ \hline \sim \$3,000.00 \text{ (1 person)} \end{array}$$

### *Cornell Immersion*

Cornell's "institution specific" Immersion is a first for ACRL, and we (PSEC Instruction Committee) are working closely with Immersion faculty to customize a program where elements from each of the four "tracks" are present. This is a unique opportunity to develop a cohort of teachers and we hope that such in-depth training will result in significant progress on Goal 4.

Immersion programs typically hold up to 40 participants, and based on the participation from the All Instructors' Summit (see **Background**) we expect to be able to fill all 40 seats. **Dates for the program are:** May 07-10 2012. **The Location:** TBD, though Mann 160 is tentatively held.

The total amount for Cornell Immersion is \$22,000, plus \$3,000 for food catering. Per person, this is ¼ of conference fee only to send one person through Immersion.

*Desired action* items from today's meeting are:

- To announce widely to CULIB, and share a link to registration. The deadline to register will two weeks from the date of opening the registration.
  - Share the registration with unit heads/supervisors for approval
  - Confirm registration with participants
- Determine whether an administrator/director session during Immersion is of interest
- Others questions

### *Background (June 2011)*

The All Instructors' Summit (AIS) was held in June 2011 for all interested teaching library staff. It was an all-day event coordinated by members of the library instruction committee. About 85% of our library teaching staff attended (n=33). The primary purpose of this meeting was to address how the Cornell University Library (CUL) could "Build information literacy programs to achieve college learning outcomes" (based on CUL's Strategic Plan, Goal 4). Some of the questions we explored included: What is an information literacy program? How does it differ from a library's bibliographic instruction program? What are college learning outcomes?

We asked participants to tell us what they thought CUL needed to do next to integrate information literacy into the curriculum systematically. Participants' feedback covered a range of areas from campus-wide partnership development to classroom pedagogy. Action items in progress since the summit include:

- current curricular IL activities in the libraries' respective subject areas (identify which courses already include IL elements, which faculty we have already partnered with, what outcomes we address in these courses)
- Identification of core & high student enrollment departments/majors/courses for our colleges (seven colleges/schools and three graduate/professional schools).
- Map our IL learning outcomes to the curriculum (begin the process of identifying what learning outcomes should be targeted where in the curriculum)
- Creation of IL task force with ownership of planning and library administrative support to ensure continuity and sustainability for an IL team;
- Coordination with campus partners and communication to upper administration, colleges & departments [Information Literacy Task Force and CUL upper management sponsors are in communication with teaching/learning and technology support units across campus]
- **Training opportunities** for teaching staff to update their skills and understanding of information literacy teaching. Participants underscored the need to be excellent teachers and advocates of information literacy if CUL is to achieve Goal 4.