

All Instructors' Summit – 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?

The summit was a great success in terms of developing the idea of a shared vision and common language among library staff who teach a varied student body (professional students, graduate students and undergraduates) in the sciences, social sciences and humanities. At the Summit, 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)
- Review CUL's IL learning outcomes and specify the criteria we should emphasize for various discipline(s) and audiences (freshman through grad/professional students).
- Survey and seek materials from other institutions' IL programs and identify what could be used at Cornell
- 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]
- **Ongoing 'summit-type' events** – Summit participants underscored the need to keep the momentum of the summit going with additional similar, follow-up events. The ACRL Immersion program at Cornell in May 2012, is part of that effort.

Areas for future development, where the Immersion program will be essential:

- **Pedagogy:**
 - Survey the IL resources available for your subject area or department
 - share tips and tricks we have found successful or not so successful in IL integration (active learning, collaboration with faculty, outreach, etc).
 - Share resources we have created in central wiki space to build shared pool of resources and assignments
- **Outreach:** How to collaborate with faculty on IL (creating a coherent central IL message, talk with faculty about outcomes, etc)
- **Assessment:** Education on the importance and usefulness of assessment for the library staff (including supervisors), standards and methods

