

VALE's Shared Information Literacy Committee

Minutes of the February 12, 2009 Meeting

Held by Videoconference at Rutgers Camden, Newark and New Brunswick

Present: Linda Beninghove, Anne Ciliberti, Jacqui DaCosta, Bonnie Fong, Theo Haynes, Heather Huey, Shirley Knight, Susan Kurzmann, Miriam Mlynarski, Lynee Richel, Bobbie Tipton, Jesse Traquair, Nancy Weiner, Donna Wertheimer.

Guest: Charlene Peacock, SCILS student

1. Chairperson Jacqui DaCosta greeted the group and asked for introductions from the participants in all three locations. Bonnie Fong from Felician College was welcomed as a new member.
2. The minutes of the December 12, 2008 meeting were reviewed and discussed, as follows:
 - a. DaCosta thanked Weiner for posting another call for submissions to the VOILA database and for promoting the resource at the Users' Conference.
 - b. Anne Ciliberti reported that no new information has been received about whether the General Education Committee of the Academic Officers group will reconsider separating technology from information literacy in Standard 4 of the new GE articulation standards. Ciliberti will confer with David Pinto, chair of the Executive Committee, about reaching out to the new AO group about this topic.
 - c. There was significant discussion about the recommendation to reconsider merging the VALE SIL Committee with the User Education Committee of ACRL/NJ. Among the comments and considerations expressed were the need for an update to the User Education Committee's web site, a concern that those on the User Education Committee are paid members of ACRL/NJ and VALE SIL participation does not require paid membership, a consideration of the reporting structure of each group, the need to avoid duplication of efforts and the need to conserve time and effort of those who serve in both groups. Richel suggested that the missions of both groups be reviewed to determine if there is overlap in their goals. DaCosta called for any dissenting opinion and hearing none, stated that she will consult with the User Education chairperson and bring the recommendation to the next meeting of the ACRL group, scheduled for February 20.
 - d. DaCosta thanked Huey for making the citations of two recommended articles available to the group.

- e. Next meeting dates and locations were reviewed and DaCosta advised that all Rutgers locations will also include the Newark site for videoconferencing.
3. Weiner reported on the Information Literacy Program Survey, noting that to date responses have been received from 22 libraries. After discussion, it was agreed that another call for completion of the survey will be placed on the listservs with a new deadline of February 27. The new announcement will include the ability to review the full survey before reporting responses in the online survey.
4. DaCosta reported that the Committee's two programs at the Users' Conference were well attended and that she had obtained favorable reviews about them. She noted that the Conference blog provided a positive review. Ciliberti volunteered to be sure that she received the conference evaluation results.
5. A planning group comprised of DaCosta, Amy Kearns, Connie Paul, Lynee Richel and Gary Schmidt has been recommended to work on the Information Literacy, from High School to College workshop targeted for June.
6. The VOILA wiki was discussed and several problems were reported, including the difficulty of submitting non-Web materials and a delay in having submissions posted. DaCosta suggested the possibility of using Google Docs as a way to make non-Web materials accessible. Ciliberti will work with Richard Kearney to resolve these issues.
7. DaCosta reported on the work of the Information Literacy Progression Standards Task Force which met in January. She noted that there is good representation from all three committees: ACRL/NJ User Education, CJ Academic Reference Librarians, and SIL. Members are Amy Clark, Jacqui DaCosta, Elenora Dubicki, Ruth Hamann, Nancy Madacsi, Pamela Price, Gary Schmidt and Nancy Weiner.

The Task Force meeting was productive and there was a great deal of interest in working to develop information literacy standards for use as guidelines throughout students' academic progress. The group plans to produce a document consisting of an introduction to the topic, a review of the ACRL standards, recommended progressions based upon the SUNY Oswego model, best practices and an appendix of supporting materials.

Assignments were delegated to the members and they hope to have a complete draft by their next meeting on March 20 and to present their work for feedback at a program at the NJLA Conference in April.

8. Ciliberti reported that the Executive Committee had met on February 6 but there was no relevant business to report.
9. DaCosta stated that she will be attending a meeting of the VALE Executive Committee and chairs of all VALE committees on March 10. She asked members to begin thinking of FY10 projects and objectives which will be discussed at the April meeting. She noted that these plans will be impacted if there is a merger with the ACRL group.
10. The VALE Web Committee has asked each committee to review its web site and send along any recommended updates and changes. Ciliberti explained that the Web Committee is doing some preliminary work to prepare for moving to a Drupal-based web management system that will enable Committee chairs and others to update their pages themselves. In the review that followed, the following updates were noted: update resource links, review and correct membership roster, and eliminate the sub-committee groups. Suggestions were made to consider adding photos of members and to make the pages more visually interesting while staying within the web page design guidelines.
11. The meeting concluded at 11:15.

Notes prepared by Ciliberti