

# Progression Standards for Information Literacy

<b>Amy Clark</b>	Brookdale Community College
<b>Jacqui DaCosta</b>	The College of New Jersey
<b>Nancy Weiner</b>	William Paterson University of New Jersey



# Session Outline

- Introduction to information literacy
- Evolution of the standards
- A closer look at the standards
- Putting the standards into practice
  - Explanation
  - Activity
- What next?





# Information Literacy is important

- Because the President says so?

*“National Information Literacy Awareness Month [October 2009] highlights the need for all Americans to be adept in the skills necessary to effectively navigate the Information Age.”*



[http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Information-Literacy-Awareness-Month/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Information-Literacy-Awareness-Month/)

# Information Literacy is important

- Because Middle States says so?

*“Information literacy ... instruction should occur in an integrated and coherent approach throughout the curriculum so that students experience increasingly sophisticated concepts as they progress through the institution.”*

<http://www.msche.org/publications/devskill050208135642.pdf>



# Information Literacy is important

- Because of what it is:

*“To be information literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information.”*

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/whitepapers/presidential.cfm>

# What does this mean in the classroom?

- Can my students think beyond Google and Wikipedia?
- Can they find books to support their learning?
- Can they find scholarly journal articles?
- Can they evaluate information?
- Can they think critically?





# What does Lampitt mean to you?

- A. Text-speak for switching on the lights?
- B. The family from “The Beverly Hillbillies”?
- C. A 2007 state law concerning the transfer of credits between two and four year colleges



# General Education Requirements

- Comprehensive State-Wide Transfer Agreement (NJ Presidents' Council, September 2008)
- General Education Foundation Course Categories
  - **4 – Technological Competency or Information Literacy**

*“Any course that emphasizes common computer technology skills that helps students to access, process, and present information. “*



<http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/PDFs/XferAgreementOct08.pdf>



# Building Community through Collaboration



Librarians are masters of collaboration!

- Charge from VALE Executive Committee (Virtual Academic Library Environment) to Shared Information Literacy Committee
- Collaboration with NJ Chapter of the ACRL (Association of College & Research Libraries) User Education Committee and the Central Jersey Academic Reference Librarians (CJRLC)

# Task Force

- Task Force formed – December 2008
- 8 librarians (4 from two year colleges; 4 from four year colleges)
- Aim was to produce:
  - Standards for students transferring from two to four year colleges
  - A document that faculty could embrace
  - A framework for institutions to customize
  - A blueprint for faculty/librarian collaboration



# Building the Standards

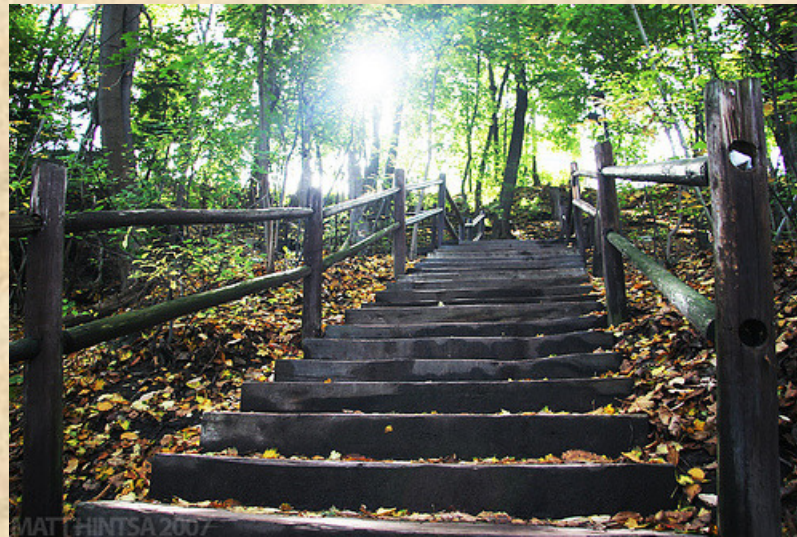
- Association of College & Research Libraries  
*Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*
- SUNY-Oswego  
*Information Literacy Learning Outcomes for Undergraduates*
- Ideas and Best Practices from Other Institutions





# Incorporating Progression

- Two Levels
  - Introductory/Novice
  - Gateway/Developing
- General Skills → Discipline Specific Skills





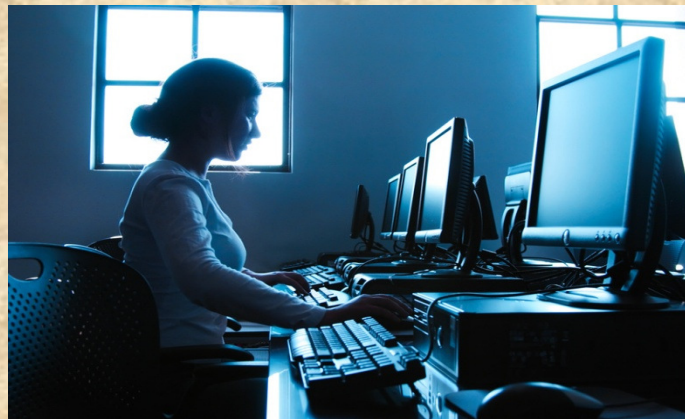
# **Room to Grow: The Future of the Standards**

- K-12
- Community College Developmental Courses
- Upper-level Undergraduate and Graduate



# Standards in Practice

- Move away from “traditional” research papers
- Adaptable: Can be used within any discipline
- Flexible: Integrated into existing courses
- Added Value: Align with Progression Standards





# Standards in Practice

- Opposing Viewpoints
  - Ideal for first year students
  - Develops essential research skills
  - Provides structure and creativity
  - Incorporate additional Literacies



# Standards in Practice

- Citation Examination
  - Emphasizes both Introductory & Gateway skills
  - Deconstruct citation to locate resources
  - Recognize value of bibliographies
  - Incorporates technology





# Standards in Practice

- Annotated Bibliography
  - Standalone element of traditional research papers
  - Focused on subject specific resources
  - Evaluation of selected sources
  - Demonstrate consistent use of a citation style



# Standards in Practice

- Ensure effective integration of Information Literacy skills within a course
- Examples easily adapted to fit any discipline
- Alignment with Progression Standards provides method of assessment
- Activity time!





# What next?

## Action Plan covering:

- Endorsement, e.g.
  - NJ Presidents' Council, NJ Council of Community Colleges, Middle States, Academic Officers' Assoc.
- Awareness raising with librarians and faculty
  - Conferences
  - Publications
- Good practice
  - Wiki
  - Teaching and learning programs

