ACRL NJLA User Education Committee and VALE Shared Information Literacy Committee

Joint Meeting via Videoconference

Rutgers University

Friday, February 11, 2011

Camden: Denise Brush, Miriam Mylnarski, Donna Wertheimer

Newark: Leslin Charles, Megan Dempsey, Bonnie Fong, Davida Scharf, Bobbie Tipton, Nancy Weiner

New Brunswick: Claire Clemens, Eleonora Dubicki, Mina Ghajar, Nancy Madasci

1. Leslin welcomed everyone in attendance and explained that Jacqui DaCosta had an emergency situation at her library and would not be able to attend. Leslin also noted she would be chairing the meeting in Jacqui’s absence.
2. Minutes from the December 10 meeting were approved.
3. NJLA User Education Committee
   1. Nancy Weiner and Eleonora Dubicki reported that two programs co-sponsored by the User Education Committee were accepted for the NJLA Conference. One program is titled “Embedded Librarianship” and Bobbie Tipton, Ann Watkins and Eleonora are the panelists. The other program was submitted by Ma Lei Hsieh and is titled “Libraries and NJ Judiciary” and will feature Rebecca Pressman from Legal Services of NJ, along with attorneys Nancy L. Manuele and Deborah J. Fennelly and Linda Wiggins who is the Ombudsman for Union County. The good news is that both programs are scheduled for Wednesday, May 4 which is the same day as the CUS luncheon. The bad news is that both programs are scheduled for the same time, 11:30am-12:20pm.
4. AOA Information Literacy Competency Group
   1. Megan Dempsey provided an update on the AOA Information Literacy Competency Group. Megan reported that the group conducted most of its work via email and defined what Information Literacy should be and based it upon the ACRL competencies in simple, clear, language. The group is now working on the guiding principles and will recommend the separation of Information Literacy from the Technology Competency. Megan also noted the group is composed of librarians and faculty, with one group looking at information literacy and the other looking at the technology competency. A few at the meeting asked Megan about the survey that was sent out by the committee to community colleges and a few suggestions were made about the wording of some of the questions.
5. VALE Website
   1. Bonnie Fong reported that she, Jacqui and Leslin met on January 28 to discuss the VALE website. Bonnie noted that the suggestion was made to develop a logo for VALE SIL, she is not sure if this will be permitted, but all thought was a good idea. Bonnie and Leslin also discussed the Voila section of the web site and Bonnie said she will check to see whether submissions are still being vetted. It was also noted that there is a browse feature but no search feature in VOILA. Bonnie agreed to be the gatekeeper for now and then solicit volunteers to oversee the VOILA section of the website. The group would also like to know what a VALE member sees on the page and what a non-VALE member would see on the page. Leslin noted that there are seven members of the committee that are not listed on the web page. The ideas and questions discussed at the meeting will be discussed with Denise O’Shea, chair of the VALE Technology Committee, at the March 8 VALE meeting.
6. VALE Executive Committee Feedback
   1. Nancy Madasci reported that Library Link NJ Director Cheryl O’Connor advised that ILL delivery service will be funded through December by Library Link NJ. Nancy also reported that representatives from the State Library have already scheduled legislative visits and are gearing up their lobbying efforts to continue funding of statewide library services. Nancy also noted that the VALE Executive Committee has formed a committee to examine ebooks and that much discussion at the last meeting centered on the pricing model of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the potential for other vendors to adopt this model. Nancy advised that we have a better chance of obtaining funds for the summer information literacy program if we limit it to VALE members. Nancy suggested that we contact Joanne Roukens from Library Link NJ about possible funding. Nancy also noted that other issues of concern discussed by the VALE Executive Committee included the curriculum at Rutgers’ library school in terms of information literacy. Eleonora reminded everyone that a she and other members of the CUS Executive Board were invited to speak to students in the program on February 23. Nancy also noted that the suggestion was made for the SIL Committee to address the remarks made by Jim Neal (“Information literacy….let’s stop the madness”) at the VALE Conference. The group felt this was not necessary and that we rather not revisit the issue.
7. Summer Program
   1. Plans were discussed for a summer program and members reviewed the program proposal that Jacqui sent to everyone. Leslin reported the Information Literacy Progression Standards Task Force submitted to proposal to ACRL for the conference (rejected!) and the suggestion was made to base the summer program on this proposal. After initial review, members agreed to the suggestion and discussion turned to potential dates and locations. Leslin will follow up on the date selection, which is being targeted for June. Mina Ghajar volunteered to check the feasibility of hosting the program at The College of Saint Elizabeth. More to come once plans are finalized.
8. Mobile Technology Discussion
   1. While not using mobile technologies yet, Leslin reported that Berkeley offers a workshop to students that focuses on the Digital Footprint and using social media. Megan reported that Raritan Valley offers a mobile website feature as does Rutgers Camden. Nancy M. reported that Centenary has activated Ebsco Mobile and Gale Mobile. There was also some discussion about QR codes.
9. New Business
   1. Eleonora asked who would be attending ACRL. Davida Sharf asked about the possibility of coordinating the creation of Libguides through VALE and described the model used by members of BRASS. Nancy M. offered to discuss the suggestion with the VALE Executive Board, but most in attendance did not think this was feasible.
10. Meeting adjourned at 11:53am

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy J. Weiner