

**Annual Report  
Reference/Instruction SIG  
2004-2005**

This has been a very busy year for the Reference/Instruction SIG (RIS). Planning for LIBRAS' first ever day long information literacy workshop began in the spring of 2004 and continued all summer. On Wednesday, November 10, 2004, LIBRAS presented a free day long crash course in information literacy instruction, Information Literacy 101 at St. Xavier University. Attended by 70 LIBRAS and non-LIBRAS librarians, the workshop generated a wealth of discussion and ideas about information literacy and instruction. The workshop was presented by Dane Ward, Associate Dean of Public Services at Illinois State University's Milner Library and Chad Kahl, Coordinator for Library Instruction and Information Literacy at Illinois State. Drawing from the breadth and depth of their accumulated experience and expertise in information literacy, the speakers generated hope and enthusiasm among attendees that they, too, could begin a transformation in their libraries' instruction programs by taking small steps in that direction. The information generated during this workshop has all been compiled into an Information Literacy Web page on the LIBRAS Web site (About LIBRAS/Information Literacy Resources.)

LIBRAS institutions represented and numbers attending from each were:

- Aurora University - 2
- Benedictine University - 2
- Columbia College - 5
- Concordia University - 1
- Dominican University - 3
- Elmhurst College - 4
- Judson College - 3
- Lake Forest College - 2
- North Central College - 3
- North Park University - 4
- St. Xavier University - 5
- Trinity Christian College - 1
- Trinity International University - 2
- University of St. Francis - 3

Members of RIS acted as discussion facilitators during the lunch hour. Members chose a lunch table based on the topic they wished to discuss. In addition to facilitating the discussion, each leader submitted notes on the ideas discussed, which have been incorporated in the Information Literacy Web page. Those members participating and their topics are:

1. Taking BI to Where the Students Are - Luann DeGreve
2. Information Literacy in Library Schools: What's Being Taught and What's Not - Charlene Thompson
3. Keeping Your Teaching Fresh - Sally Anderson
4. Active Learning or Creative Teaching: a Sharing of Ideas - Jennifer Paliatka, Susan Augustine

5. Assessment - Ingrid Boyer, James Kusik
6. Teaching to Different Learning Styles - Anne Buchanan
7. Reaching Out To Adult Learners – Nancy Mactague
8. Staying Ahead of the Game – What Do This Year’s Freshmen Need To Know? - Rebecca Miller
9. How Do You Integrate Information Literacy Concepts into the Curriculum or Course Assignments? – Gail Heideman, John Anagnostopoulos

Because of the magnitude of this undertaking, and the involvement of so many RIS members, the workshop was considered the RIS fall SIG meeting. A proposed summer 2004 RIS meeting did not take place due to lack of interest by the members. Very few RIS members attended the January 12, 2005 combined SIG meeting at Columbia College, "Managing Student Employees Throughout the Library."

I have used the RIS-L list to keep members apprised of professional development opportunities, many of which have also been listed on the Information Literacy Web page. One event that I particularly try to make known to the membership is the free Information Literacy Summit held every spring at Moraine Valley Community College and several other locations around the state. The summit always includes a nationally recognized information literacy expert and provides a wonderful chance to network with librarians from middle and high schools, community colleges, colleges, and universities.

The spring RIS meeting is being planned in response to many comments on the Information Literacy 101 evaluations requesting actual demonstrations of the teaching techniques workshop speakers talk about. I have four RIS member volunteers who will demonstrate their best teaching techniques to the group. In response to several requests for a demonstration of North Central’s Personal Response System, I have had a video tape of myself using the system made which I will share with the group. This meeting will be held at Lake Forest College, hosted by Rebecca Miller, on Wednesday, May 25.