

MINUTES, INSTRUCTION IN LIBRARY USE COMMITTEE MEETING,  
JANUARY 18, 2006

Present: Sheril Hook (Chair), Elaine Tamura, Marian Press, Jeff Newman, Cris Sewerin, Carla Hagstrom, Elena Prigoda, Alison Girling, Sara McDowell, Nalini Singh, Richard Carter, Margaret Fulford (minutes).

1) Day 1 evaluations compiled (Margaret)

Everyone read over the feedback from participants in the Dec. 15th ILU/Staff Development workshop (plus additional feedback received by e-mail from a participant.)

2) Day 2 evaluations compiled (Sheril)

Everyone read over the feedback from participants in the Dec. 16th ILU/Staff Development workshop.

3) Day 2 workshop exercises compiled (Nalini)

Everyone read over the notes from the Force Field Analysis Exercises at the Dec. 16th ILU/Staff Development workshop (group exercise summary and additional discussions, and the transcription of groups' transparencies).

4) ILU Plans for 2006: what would we like to accomplish this year?

Those present read over and discussed the document outlining the Membership and Terms of Reference for the ILU Committee and went over the current membership. Jeff will check the list of subscribers to the "ilu-committee" listserv and let Sheril know if there are any additional committee members. It was noted that Pharmacy Library should be removed from the "Appointed" section of the Membership, as it is now part of the Gerstein Science Information Centre.

There was some discussion about the "refinfo" and "ilulist" listservs as ways of communicating about information literacy events or issues with those who are involved in library instruction but are not on the Committee. (Note: "refinfo" is the reference services listserv, and "ilulist" is the broad ILU listserv, not to be confused with the "ilu-committee" listserv for ILU Committee members.) Elena will ask Carla about the membership of "refinfo" and "ilulist": are most or all instructors / people interested in

instruction subscribed to "ilulist"?; do people need to be made aware that "ilulist" exists? For now, messages about ILU events or issues of interest beyond the Committee will be sent to both reinfo and ilu-list, to be sure to reach everyone who might be interested.

It was agreed that the Committee members will take turn taking minutes at meetings.

There was a discussion of various things the Committee might do. Ideas discussed are outlined in point-form notes below. Part-way through the discussion, it was suggested that we could choose one theme each year (such as institutional support, or assessment, or social and ethical aspects of information), and make that our focus for the year (including doing a December professional development event on that theme).

Ideas discussed:

- developing best practices for teaching and learning and instruction programs

- presenting an introductory class on how to teach; the focus would be on presentation techniques and practical tips; perhaps a reprise of Rita Vines one-day class given in 1999; such a class might be given every few years, for new hires and others interested.

- assessment (on a number of the feedback forms for the Dec. '05 workshops, this was suggested as a topic for future professional development events).

- institutional support / buy-in; how can we help convince the administration that information literacy is important?; staffing / not enough librarians; the need for an information literacy coordinator position at U of T; Sheril will send around an ACRL document that discusses the issue of institutional support.

- doing a survey of faculty, asking them if their students understand how to do research well; perhaps first, before deciding whether a U of T survey is necessary, we should look at the existing literature about similar surveys showing the need for information literacy programs (Nalini may do a search; researchers mentioned at the meeting were Sheila Webber and Bill Johnston in the U.K. and Heidi Julien at the University of Alberta).

- social and ethical aspects of information (learning about these issues, and how to teach them); Standard Five (of the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education); who controls / has access to information/media/publishing; the open access movement.

-- grant-proposal writing and grant sources; since this is of broader interest (i.e., not specific to information literacy), perhaps the Staff Development Committee would be interested in doing a professional development event about this; Jeff will suggest it to them; the UTL development officer could be involved; if Staff Development did an event about this, the ILU Committee could have a follow-up discussion about it at a subsequent ILU meeting re: possible grants for information literacy initiatives.

-- influencing curriculum design / partnering / curriculum mapping

-- marketing / raising awareness; Judy Peacocks idea of marketing IL to faculty, administration, etc. through the librarys website; Sara McDowell, Sandra Langlands, and Jenny Mendelsohn have drafted a statement on IL which will be posted on the UTL site; this came out of an ILU Teaching and Learning Group meeting; at a future meeting, the ILU committee could take a look at this statement (Sara will ask Sandra to send it out in the meantime); Sheril Hook has a piece on IL in the latest UTM Library newsletter (note: see [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/library/utml/admin/news/winter06\\_infolit.html](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/library/utml/admin/news/winter06_infolit.html)); a link could be added from the new UTL page to Sheril's piece).

-- time management / efficiency

-- (idea for the future): U of T -- or U of T and Ryerson -- could volunteer to host a future WILU conference. This would be a big commitment and require institutional support. York is hosting one of the upcoming WILUs, so it might be a while before another one could be held in Toronto. Margaret will find out what dates and locations have been set for future WILU conferences.

It was noted that initiatives to collaborate with or market to departments /disciplines may have overlap with the Liaison Committee (made up of subject liaison librarians on the St. George campus); such initiatives should be coordinated with subject liaison librarians.

There was discussion of which theme to choose for 2006, and the theme of assessment / evaluation was chosen.

Sheril offered to do an informal presentation on the approach to assessment developed by the information literacy program at the University of Arizona.

There was a discussion of when to hold Sheril's informal presentation on assessment, and other such presentations / discussions / etc. (as part of an ILU Committee meeting or as a separate event at a different time?). The

Committee had previously decided to meet six times a year (except if extra meetings were needed e.g. for event planning). So, it was decided that ILU Committee members would keep open the regular ILU meeting time each month (the third Wednesday of the month), and we would try alternating between regular business meetings and special meetings that would be open to all those interested (e.g., Sheril's presentation).

5) Next meeting date: February 15

Sheril will do her presentation at the Feb. 15th meeting; she will book a room and announce it as an open meeting. (Postponed due to TLG meeting of Feb. 16)

The next regular business meeting will be March 15.