Information Literacy Council
Minutes
June 14, 2007

In attendance: Grubb, McWilliams, Day, Killmeier

Karen Day told everyone a little of her background and reasons for wanting to join the
group. Grubb presented the following news on upcoming instruction:

- July 3 – Instruction for all Upward Bound students in Gorham. 3 large groups.
- July 13 – Glickman Library tours for Upward Bound students (a first)
- The library will participate in orientation by providing basic library information at
  the library door mid-summer. This will expand for fall orientation.
- Stonecoast, Honors and other groups have been contacted and we hope to develop
  a good working relationship with each group.
- Instruction will be provided by librarians for the Entry Year Experience classes
  with each librarian teaching segments for about 5 classes.

McWilliams emphasized the need for thinking outside the box in developing instruction
for the EYE classes. USM’s Gen Ed program is creative and innovative, as the library
instruction should be. We want it to be fun and non-traditional. I am encouraging my
librarians to start from scratch on designing instruction and want them to rule out
nothing. This must be fresh and effective. We will try to work as closely as possible with
each instructor in designing instruction and assignments around resources the library
DOES have, instead of the opposite, so as to encourage, not discourage our new students.

McWilliams encouraged the librarians to make a list of techniques that work instead of
falling into the old trap of complaining about what doesn’t work.

McWilliams and others liked the displays in the library. It was discovered that no one
ever received the library newsletter (Library Ledger) that Grubb designed-produced in
February. He passed out copies and showed everyone the online version
This led to discussion of the need for library outreach in new and interesting ways.
Banned Books week will be highlighted this year under Grubb’s direction and will
(hopefully) include faculty members and students silently reading banned books in the
library supplemented by displays and media coverage.

If you haven’t noticed the library blog, Library Pusle
[http://usmlibrarypulse.blogspot.com] check it out. It’s just random interesting and useful
web sites. This is another PR tool.

The library is in the process of beginning a revision/update of the library homepage. We
will drop the library jargon and organize it more intuitively. Day suggested student
success stories on the main library page as a way to promote the library and inspire
students. Everyone agreed it’s a great idea. Grubb suggested doing it in UTube. Day also
suggested using raffle tickets at orientation to enliven the event.
It was agree that the library should be involved in Thinking Matters. Grubb met earlier with the TM team, but will follow up in detail. This would be a good way to develop relationships with students and with faculty.

It was agreed that most faculty are engaged in information literacy all the time in their research, but don’t recognize the term and lack a clear understanding and consistent approach to teaching it. It’s crucial that the information literacy program chip away at this and demonstrate the usefulness of information literacy at every level of the instructional process. It won’t happen over night, however. It was suggested that working with graduate assistants might be one way to educate and influence faculty.

Grubb and Lynch passed out the draft proposal for review by the tech program in Gorham, who had requested it. See attached. The Tech department will review and make suggestions before a formal proposal is submitted. McWilliams suggested that parts of the proposal be tied to specific classes.

Grubb schedule the next meeting via email. Day will not be available during July.

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