

ACRL Minnesota: Annual Report 2015

Value of Academic Libraries

1. Leverage existing research that will articulate and promote the value of academic and research libraries.

We give out an annual academic library Innovator Award. It is typically awarded in Spring at our ARLD Day conference. This year, however, we extended the deadling for applications and it will be given out in the Fall at the 2015 annual Minnesota Library Association conference.

2. Increase research that demonstrates the value of academic and research libraries.

At last fall's Minnesota Library Association annual meeting, ARLD hosted poster sessions, allowing members the chance to see what research is being done by academic librarians from across the state. Some topics covered included using e-textbooks, improving diversity in the library, supporting interdisciplinary research, and conducting library space studies.

3. Increase the visibility of libraries in national conversations and activities focused on the value of higher education.

At the most recent ACRL conference, ARLD member librarians presented on collecting and using library data as well as a poster session on designing a game to teach the reference interview.

4. Develop and deliver responsive professional development programs that build the skills and capacity for leadership and local data informed and evidence based advocacy.

ARLD's discussion series, ARLD Dialogues, presented a session on ACRL's Information Literacy Framework. The session gave 20 librarians from around the state the opportunity to discuss and explore the new guidelines.

Student Learning

1. Identify innovative practices in learning environments and instruction that enable academic librarians to transform learning.

During our annual ARLD Day conference, a presentation was given focusing on working with students in online courses, to make sure they have an excellent experience. This year's ARLD Day also included presentations on different open access models and initiatives across the state, partnering with student workers in campus outreach and helping community members with genealogical research.

2. Articulate and advocate for the role of librarians in setting, achieving, and measuring institutional learning outcomes.

At this year's ARLD Day conference, a session was presented focusing on acquiring and using qualitative data. The session focused on how qualitative data "can provide information that quantitative data is unable to capture." This session gave librarians, who have more and more assessment duties, the opportunity to consider how moving beyond the numbers can help tell the library story.

3. Increase partnerships with other organizations to advance the impact of Information Literacy on student learning.

Members of ARLD participated in the creation of an Instruction Roundtable for the Minnesota Library Association. The co-chairs of that group lead a Dialogue in 2014 on the ACRL Information Literacy Guidelines.

4. Build capacity for the librarians' role in supporting faculty and future faculty as they work to develop information literate students.

A group of faculty, staff and librarians from the University of Minnesota, Morris participated in the most recent Assessment in Action program. UMM's program developed a longitudinal assessment plan to see how much and what type of data is retained from first year through graduation. The group worked closely with college writing faculty to develop a pre- and post-instruction session surveys, and they worked with other faculty to determine models for bibliographic assessment.

During our annual ARLD Day conference, a presentation was given focusing on how librarians can apply the new information literacy frameworks by building information literacy concepts into online credit-bearing courses as well as within tutorials and activities that can serve as virtual one-shot sessions. Presenters discussed ways that they have utilized video, online discussion boards, and social media sites, to engage with students.

5. Increase understanding of new models of information fluency as pedagogy evolves.

At the MLA conference, one of the ARLD poster sessions focused on the University of Minnesota's Science Boot Camp, which brought together librarians from across the campus to focus on interdisciplinary practices in the sciences, and the needs of those researchers.

Research and Scholarly Environment

1. Increase the ways ACRL is an advocate and model for open dissemination and evaluation practices.

This year's ARLD Day speaker was Stephanie Davis-Kahl, Scholarly Communications Librarian and Associate Professor at Illinois Wesleyan University. Her talk, "The Alchemy of Open: Ideas, Discovery and Action," explored the ways academic librarians can encourage undergraduate students to be advocates for open access.

2. Enhance members' capacity to address issues related to digital scholarship and data management.

The theme for this year's ARLD Day was "The Open Library," and there were three separate presentations on creating digital document and photographic collections.

3. Influence scholarly publishing policies and practices toward a more open system.

Individual librarians at the University of Minnesota, many of whom are ARLD members, advocated for the University of Minnesota to pass a policy requiring faculty to submit their publications to an open access institutional repository. The new policy took effect in January 2015.

4. Create and promote new mechanisms that reward and value open scholarship.

None.

Enabling programs and services

1. Education

ARLD hosts an annual conference (ARLD Day) that allows academic librarians the chance to learn about new research, stay updated on trends in the field, and to network with colleagues. We also host poster sessions during our business meeting at the annual state conference.

2. Publications

None this year.

The ARLD Board has just begun discussing the creation of an archive of materials from our various conferences/events, including: materials from ARLD Day, posters and other materials from the annual ARLD business meeting at the MLA annual conference, and materials from ARLD Dialogues.

3. Advocacy

ARLD has a liaison to MLA's legislative committee whose purpose is to advocate for academic libraries. At the last two Legislative Days, ARLD has provided participants with a handout explaining the benefits of academic libraries to the state. This year, for the first time in many years, there was a plank specific to academic libraries ("The Minnesota Library Association and the Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota support academic libraries in their commitment to research, teaching, learning and providing information to all Minnesotans. Minnesota Library Association recognizes the important role that academic libraries play in lifelong learning through community outreach with programs such as History Day, PSEO and workforce development.")

4. Member Engagement

We regularly update members with information through email blasts, updates in the MLA RoundUp, and postings on the MLA website. We also have a business meeting at the MLA Annual Conference.