University of Arkansas Libraries

Instruction (Group 7.1) Minutes – 5/8/12

The group spoke about the structure of instruction and the status of the criteria written about instruction in 2009. Luti Salisbury reported that the 2009 report included a broad outline, example lesson plans with absolutes highlighted in yellow, sample questions that students should be able to answer, and two minute assessments.

The question was proposed, are the literacy standards covered by the 2009 document. Some said it was. Others saw problems. There is no formal Instruction Orientation for subject specialists outside of reference. There is no one responsible for administration.

The group also discussed the documents created in 2005 and consensus was that it was useful also.

It was suggested that we take both of the old documents and implement them, but also observe each other in the classroom and teach each other how to do library instruction. Someone needs to be in charge to hold others accountable for their instruction.

A discussion of how to negotiate the goal of the instructor with the goal of library instruction ensued.

A comment was made that we have instruction, but do we want an instruction program.

If we had an instruction coordinator they would be responsible for feedback or assessment, keeping up with technology needed and other tools needed.

Deb’s group on Administration also looked at the program and saw the need for a coordinator and assessment.

Beth noted that all the other departments on campus give out Extrinsic Rewards for Excellence in Teaching and thought that the Libraries should also give an award for Excellence in Instruction.

Who trains the new people? Assignment for the next meeting is to think about a good training program for a new person who has not seen our instruction documents and who has not done instruction before. How do you instruct the new instructor? May 14th at 11 am in room 486.

Respectfully, mag