UH Libraries
Information Literacy Committee
July 16, 2003 Minutes
Present (via teleconference): Thora Abarca, David Coleman, Gregg Geary, Laurel Gregory, Xin LI, Jeffrey Marzluft, Tara Severns, Gail Urago.

Guests: Margit Watts, Denise Konan
Minutes: Jeffrey Marzluft

May Meeting
-- Via E-mail, it was suggested that the May 19th meeting be changed to May 18th. Because LCC is hosting the meeting, David was asked if this was acceptable. He agreed. The May meeting will be held on May 18th.

Focus Groups
-- The possibility of UHLILC doing focus groups was discussed. Although it was agreed that focus would provide us with first hand knowledge regarding Information Literacy on our campuses, there were many objections.
-- Thora asked David and Laurel if they thought the Library Council expected UHLILC to do focus groups. David answered “No.”
-- A discussion on focus groups ensued. The consensus was that focus groups are a valuable tool and should be used when necessary. At this point in our committee’s existence, they are not yet necessary. Everyone agreed that focus groups should come after we have sufficient time to make changes to our programs (in light of the recent conference) as well as sufficient time for the committee to get stared and running.
-- Xin suggested that focus groups may be too time consuming for our purposes and we may need to find/use more flexible methods for acquiring campus information (e.g. questionnaires, surveys, etc…)

August Meeting Discussion
-- Thora suggested that we may want to discuss definitions of Information Literacy at our next meeting in August and attempt to devise one uniform definition for all the UH libraries. However, David suggested (and most agreed) that formulating one definition might be too difficult. Instead maybe we should try and agree on concepts.
-- Thora responded by saying that she was looking for ideas for an activity at our next meeting.
-- Gail suggested that we may have some more ideas after we hear from our guest speakers. Thora agreed, adding that she was curious about what everyone was doing on his or her campus after the big conference.
-- Laurel suggested that this could be the focus of our next meeting. Everyone could bring in their plans and programs and we can discuss them with each other.
-- Everyone agreed that this was an excellent idea and Jeff was asked if he could get a computer classroom at Maui for the meeting. Jeff said he would try.
--Laurel brought up the scarcity of “G” coupons and the tightness of all our budgets.
-- In addition to budgetary problems, many members are taking their vacation at the same time as the scheduled meeting.
-- It was suggested that the meeting may need to be cancelled for lack of budget and members attendance.
-- There were no objections. **The August meeting is cancelled.**
-- It was decided that the meeting in September would focus on two items. One - the various programs and new ideas we are doing in our libraries. Two – the competencies for English 100.

**More Discussion**

-- Thora asked David about the Library Council’s expectations for our committee. He stated (and Laurel concurred) that the council’s primary concern was the three charges given to us at our inception.

-- Next we discussed the number of librarians doing instruction at our campuses, the number of English 100 classes reached and the method of teaching. It was discovered that most of us are doing the same thing. Most campuses have more than one person doing IL but one person does most of it. All the librarians were confident that most (all?) of the English 100 classes were involved in some sort of formal IL program. Most members garner faculty input when preparing their classes in order to make the information more relevant for the students, but they have set up units as well (i.e. a workbook program).

-- At this point, Thora asked Tara about her WEBCT module and Tara said that her primary workload has been on a competency exam that will be administered to Windward students for graduation. One of the components of this exam will be Information Literacy. We discussed the nature of this test including when it is given (2 times a month every month) and how the student prepares for it (it is hoped that the student will acquire enough knowledge in his/her classroom experience to pass the test).

**Guests**

--During the guests’ talks, there was much microphone interference and the minute taker could only hear about every third word.

--Margit Watts went over the ACRL standards for IL and the notion of “best Practices.” Although UH has Info. Lit. within its hallmarks, she felt that the ACRL standards are a bigger job than can be handled by English 100. It must become a campus wide issue!

-- Denise Konan will be invited back to further discuss articulation. She did mention that the new rules for articulation are more flexible and beneficial for the majority of the teaching faculty.

--The meeting was not formally adjourned because Thora’s disappeared and her screen went blank.