Update on ACRL's Value of Academic Libraries Initiative

ALA Midwinter Meeting
Sunday, January 27, 2013, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Mary Ellen Davis
Executive Director, ACRL

Terri Fishel
Library Director, Macalester College

Kara Malenfant
Senior Strategist, ACRL

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe
Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana
Welcome and Speaker Introductions
The Road Travelled
National Context & Responses
“Few libraries exist in a vacuum, accountable only to themselves. There is always a larger context for assessing library quality, that is, what and how well does the library contribute to achieving the overall goals of the parent constituencies?”

(Sarah Pritchard, 1996)
“The major objective for academic libraries, especially in an environment of increasing economic pressure, structural change, and technological innovation, must be to align themselves with the structures of higher education and the criteria by which those institutions are judged.”

(Sarah Pritchard, 1996)
ACRL Member Priority

Issues for the Profession

Select the top three issues facing academic and research librarianship today

- Demonstrating the value of the library and librarians: 61%
- Increasing costs and declining resources for academic/research: 44%
- Changing nature of scholarly communication: 41%
- Changing technological environment: 39%
- Collaborating with faculty to improve student learning: 36%
ACRL Plan for Excellence

Value of Academic Libraries

Goal: Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes.

Objectives:

• Leverage existing research to articulate and promote the value of academic and research libraries.

• Undertake and support new research that builds on the research agenda in *The Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Review and Report*.

• Influence national conversations and activities focused on the value of higher education.

• Develop and deliver responsive professional development programs that build the skills and capacity for leadership and local data-informed and evidence-based advocacy.
Value of Academic Libraries Initiative

- Keep Up-to-Date
  - Value of Academic Libraries Blog
  - Valueography
- Outreach & Collaboration
  - Presentations (e.g. CNI, LAC, & Northumbria)
  - ACRL Liaisons Assembly

- Assessment Management Systems

- Under Discussion
  - Librarian Competencies
  - Research agenda
  - Library Exhibit
Value of Academic Libraries Publications

Freely available at http://acrl.org/value - no charge!
Assessment in Action Grant
Assessment in Action Goals

- Professional Competencies
- Collaborative Relationships
- Approaches, Strategies, Practices
Team Approach
Blended Learning
Community of Practice
Action Learning Projects
Designer/Facilitators

Deb Gilchrist
Lisa Hinchliffe
Kara Malenfant

Carrie Donovan
April Cunningham
Libby Miles
Basics of Applying

1. Identify a team:
   • one librarian
   • minimum two people from other campus units
2. Write two essays:
   • team’s project goals
   • librarian team leader’s goals
3. Secure two statements of support:
   • library dean/director
   • chief academic officer
4. Complete online application by 5 p.m. Central, Friday, March 8.

Read more at http://acrl.org/value
Essay #1 Team’s Project Goals

Up to 300 words.

What aspects of student learning/success are most important at your institution?

What aspect of the library, what connections would be explored?

What has been done in the past?

Why this team?

Read more at http://acrl.org/value
Essay #2 Librarian Team Leader’s Goals

Up to 300 words.
Your personal goals for professional growth?
How will participating improve your ability to fully engage in campus-wide assessment endeavors?
What skills and attitude do you bring to the collaborative learning community? To the role of team leader?

Read more at http://acrl.org/value
Statements of Support

Up to 500 words each.

*Library dean/director:* commitment to assessment, their role, support of project.

*Chief academic officer:* how team’s project goals are connected to institutional priorities

Read more at [http://acrl.org/value](http://acrl.org/value)
Team and topic have potential to contribute.

Team and institution demonstrate commitment of resources and support.

Librarian team leaders demonstrate potential for sustained growth.

Read more at http://acrl.org/value
Costs

Read more at [http://acrl.org/value](http://acrl.org/value)
Important Dates

Apply by 5 p.m. Central, Friday, March 8.

Notifications by 5 p.m. Central, Friday, April 5.

Webcast for selected teams 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Central, Thursday, April 18.

Read more at http://acrl.org/value
Find Out More

See announcement at [http://acrl.org/value](http://acrl.org/value)

Read webpage on applying and FAQs

Contact Kara Malenfant at [kmalenfant@ala.org](mailto:kmalenfant@ala.org)
or 800/545-2433 ext 2510
Open Discussion

**Transferability**: What information should we ask participants to document about their action learning projects?
Questions?
Comments?
Thank You!