Update on ACRL’s Value of Academic Libraries Initiative

Sunday, June 29, 2014 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Las Vegas Convention Center – N255

Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Ph.D.
Chair, ACRL Value of Academic Libraries Committee, 2014-15

Melissa Bowles-Terry
Vice-Chair, ACRL Value of Academic Libraries Committee, 2014-15
(Historic) National Context
National Higher Education Responses

The Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA™)
NASULGC
A Public University Association

National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment
Making Learning Outcomes Usable & Transparent

new leadership ALLIANCE
for student learning and accountability

Projects and Services
CLA Receives Teagle Grant for CIC/CLA Consortium; Publishes Report on Consortial Use of CLA to Improve Teaching and Learning
The Road Travelled
Value of Academic Libraries Report

Freely available
http://acrl.org/value
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**

- **Work in Progress**
  - Librarian Competencies
  - Research agenda
  - Library Publicity Posters
Value of Academic Libraries Initiative

- Outreach & Collaboration
  - **Objective:** Influence national conversations and activities focused on the value of higher education.

Working with ACRL Liaisons to develop talking points – guides prepared for the liaisons to the American Sociological Association, Society for College and University Planning, Modern Language Association, American Anthropological Association; more coming
Objective: Develop and deliver responsive professional development programs that build the skills and capacity for leadership and local data-informed and evidence-based advocacy.

Task Force on Standards for Proficiencies for Assessment Librarians and Coordinators was formed with the charge:

To develop a list of proficiencies required of assessment librarians and other librarians who contribute to assessment programs at their institutions, focusing on broad areas of proficiency rather than a comprehensive list of skills; consider similar documents such as ACRL’s “Standards for Proficiencies for Instruction Librarians and Coordinators” and RUSA’s "Professional Competencies for Reference and User Services Librarians;” outline an approach to assist individuals and organizations in selecting the proficiencies most appropriate for their environment; and follow the standards development requirements in the ACRL Guide to Policies and Procedures.
Value of Academic Libraries Initiative

Work in Progress

Objective: Leverage existing research to articulate and promote the value of academic and research libraries

• Library Publicity Posters Campaign
  • Provide examples of research that demonstrates the value librarians provide
  • Customizable to add institution logo
  • Freely available
NEED HELP?
The library can help you succeed.
Studies indicate students who make use of library resources and services have higher retention rates and GPA.

Using library resources can help you succeed. Studies indicate students who make use of library resources have higher retention rates and GPA.

Librarians can help you succeed. Studies indicate students who meet with a librarian for research instruction have higher GPAs.

Need Help?

The library can help you succeed.

Studies indicate students who make use of library resources and services have higher retention rates and GPA.

Working on Research?
Librarians can help you succeed.

Studies indicate students who meet with a librarian for research instruction have higher GPA.

Writing a Paper?

Using library resources can help you succeed.

Studies indicate students who make use of library resources have higher retention rates and GPA.

Recommendations

- Define outcomes
- Create or adopt systems for assessment management
- Determine what libraries enables students, faculty, student affairs professionals, administrators and staff to do.
- Develop systems to collect data on individual library user behavior, while maintaining privacy.
- Record and increase library impact on student enrollment.
- Link libraries to improved student retention and graduation rates.
- Review course content, readings, reserves, and assignments.
- Document and augment library advancement of student experiences, attitudes, and perceptions of quality.
- Track and increase library contributions to faculty research productivity.
- Contribute to investigate library impact on faculty grant proposals and funding, a means of generating institutional income.
- Demonstrate and improve library support of faculty teaching.
- Create library assessment plans.
- **Promote and participate in professional development.**
- **Mobilize library administrators.**
- **Leverage library professional associations.**
Planning Grant Report

CONNECT, COLLABORATE, AND COMMUNICATE
A Report from the Value of Academic Libraries Summit

Freely available
http://acrl.org/value
Themes from Summits

- Accountability
- Unified approach
- Student learning/success
- Evidence-based
Recommendation 1

Library Value  →  Student Learning and Success:
Increase the profession’s understanding of library value in relation to various dimensions of student learning and success
Recommendation 2

Core VAL Competencies:
Articulate and promote the development of core assessment competencies related to library value
Recommendation 3

Professional Development:
Create opportunities for librarians to learn how to initiate and design assessment that demonstrates the library’s contributions to advancing institutional mission and strategic goals
Recommendation 4

Partner and Collaborate:
Expand partnerships and assessment activities with higher education constituent groups
Recommendation 5

Building Blocks:
Integrate the use of existing ACRL tools with library value initiatives
Assessment in Action Goals

- Professional Competencies
- Collaborative Relationships
- Approaches, Strategies, Practices
AiA Facilitators

Deb Gilchrist
Lisa Hinchliffe
Kara Malenfant
Carrie Donovan
April Cunningham
Team Approach

Librarian Leader

Faculty Member

Institutional Researcher/Assessment Officer
AiA Team Members

- assessment office
- institutional research
- teaching faculty
- writing center
- information/acad. technology
- student affairs
- campus administrator
- library administrator
- other librarian
AiA 2014 Institutional Teams
# AiA 2014 Institutional Teams

## Accreditation:
- 11 MSCHE
- 30 NCA-HLC
- 4 NEASC-CIHE
- 6 NWCCU
- 18 SACS
- 3 WASC-ACSCU
- 1 Canadian

## Type of Institution:
- 13 Associate's
- 15 Baccalaureate Colleges
- 11 Master's Colleges and Universities
- 4 Doctoral/Research Universities
- 23 Research Universities (high/very high research activity)
- 6 Special Focus Institutions (Medical schools, culinary, Theological seminary)
- 1 Tribal college
Community of Practice
1. Defining Outcome(s)
2. Setting Criteria
3. Performing Action(s) & Gathering Evidence
5. Analyzing Evidence
6. Planning Change

Cycle of Assessment [focused on] Library Value

- Planning
- Acting
- Reflecting
- Sharing
Blended Learning
Action Learning Projects
Sharing Results

Library Factors Examined

• instruction: games, single/multiple session, course embedded, tutorials
• reference
• physical space
• discovery: institutional web, resource guides
• collections
• personnel
Variety of Tools/Methods

- survey
- interviews
- focus group(s)
- observation
- pre/post test
- rubric
- student portfolio

- research paper/project
- other class assignment
- test scores
- GPA
- degree completion rate
- retention rate
Example Inquiry Questions

• How does our newly revised inquiry-based, blended information literacy program contribute to and enhance student learning?
• Do library outreach programs focused on sophomore students improve academic quality and student retention?
• To what extent does partnering with the Academic Support Center (to provide tutoring services on the main floor of the Library) increase student success and contribute to campus-wide retention efforts?
• What types of faculty-librarian collaborations are most effective in supporting the university’s Quality Enhancement Program: Global Learning for Global Citizenship?
• How effective is our discovery system in preparing health care clinicians to access and effectively use evidence/information in their professional practice?
Apply for Year 3

- Application available January 2015
- Applications due March 2015
- Notifications April 2015
- Program starts mid April
- Full details at http://acrl.org/value
FYI: 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
Several proposals have been submitted for possible ACRL 2015 presentations and workshops. We will be sharing updates on these plans as more information becomes available at the ACRL Blog

www.acrl.ala.org/value/
Questions?
Comments?
Thank You!