Liaison Program Resources
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Liaison Program Articles


This report from the Association of Research Libraries aims to help place library liaisons within a transforming environment of higher education, and the changing framework of student learning and faculty scholarship. The authors outline 6 general trends in academic libraries and how they affect the relationships between liaisons and their departments.


Jones provides three broad tips for new librarians or librarians new a liaison position. An overarching theme for her suggestions is communication, both with the liaison departments and with other departmental liaisons to leverage institutional memory.


Central to this article is an account of how their library used technology to augment their liaison program. While web based tools like blogs were valuable, the article concludes that personal relationships built by face-to-face interactions were still key to the success of the liaison program.


Chapters provide guidance on the basic concerns of liaisons, including communication with faculty, subject expertise and reference/instruction services.


Though this article is specific to a Health Sciences library, their strategies are relevant for any library trying to extend their liaison program. The authors sketch out the informal liaison
practices that were already in place and discuss how they standardized the efforts into a more formal liaison program.

**Adjunct Specific Articles**


Many of the issues that the EBSS committee identified are discussed in Avery’s article. She challenges librarians to advocate for adjuncts and be proactive in outreach and programming that targets them. She warns that we need to be mindful of attitudes that deem adjuncts as “lesser faculty”. Her suggestions include inviting adjuncts to serve on library committees and creating a toolkit of resources that will help librarians find and collaborate with adjuncts.


The article looks at college librarians who worked as adjunct professors, teaching semester long courses in addition to their roles as librarians. Using reflections from these librarians, the article details the rewards and challenges faced with undertaking the responsibilities of an adjunct professor. According to the article, respect and appreciation between professors and librarians grew as librarians learned more about the duties and experiences of professors. The article states that the work of these librarians was beneficial to both the college and the individuals involved.


Research indicates that adjuncts are an underserved group who are disconnected from the university on many levels. They are not always granted orientation, often lack connection with their own departments, and are unfamiliar with the resources and services available in the academic library. Of particular concern for Klentzin and Bucci is the heavy reliance on adjunct faculty to teach introductory courses that should include an information literacy component.


Any discussion about adjunct faculty should examine how Library and Information Schools (LIS) hire and interact with adjuncts. This article reports on a study about the role of adjunct faculty in
distance learning programs in LIS. Indeed, online instruction relies on a higher percentage of adjuncts than face-to-face classes. Many of these adjuncts are professional librarians bringing their practice into the courses.


As more full time faculty fare required to conduct research, teaching is delegated to adjunct faculty. This article presents the findings of a qualitative research project that asked participating adjunct faculty what they need, what their experiences are, and how they deal with the challenges of their role on campus.


Morton’s article is a call to college and university administrations to address the clear needs of adjunct faculty. She notes their need for professional development, orientation (including library services and resources), training, and building relationships.

**Example Liaison Programs**


