Liaison Program Resources

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Liaison Program Articles

Jaguszewski, J.M. and Williams, K. (2013, August). New roles for new times: Transforming liaison roles in research libraries. Association of Research Libraries. Retrieved August 14, 2015 from: http://www.arl.org/nrnt

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, C. (n.d). Tips for becoming a successful academic librarian liaison at a small college or university. Retrieved August 14, 2015 from Doody's Core Titles website: http://www.doody.com/dct/PublicFeaturedArticle.asp?SiteContentID=109

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.

Kozel-Gains, M.A. and Stoddart, R.A. (2009). Experiments and experiences in liaison activities: Lessons from new librarians in integrating technology, face-to-face, and follow-up. *Collection Management 34*, 130-142. doi: 10.1080/01462670902729150

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.

Moniz, R., Henry, J., & Eshleman, J. (2014). *Fundamentals for the academic liaison*. ALA Fundamentals Series. Chicago: Neal-Schuman.

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

Tennant, M., et al. (2001, January). Customizing for clients: Developing a library liaison program from need to plan. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association, 89*(1), 8-20. Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/72/

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

Avery, S., (2013). Adjunct faculty and the library: A challenge for change. *College & Undergraduate Libraries, 20*(1), 25-39. doi: 10.1080/10691316.2013.761049

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.

Balczuinas, A. & Gordon, L. (2012). Walking a mile in their shoes. *College & Research Libraries News, 73*: 192-195. Retrieved from http://crln.acrl.org/

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.

Klentzin, J. C., & Bucci, D. T. (2012). Part-time faculty and the academic library: A case study. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship, 38*, 101-107. doi: 10.1016/j.acalib.2012.02.002

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.

Lester, J. (2011). Use of adjunct faculty in delivery of distance education in ALA-accredited LIS master's programs in the U.S. and Canada. *Journal of Education for Library & Information Science, 52*, 212-237. Retrieved from http://www.alise.org

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.

Meixner, C., & Kruck, S. E. (2010). Inclusion of part-time faculty for the benefit of faculty and students. *College Teaching, 58*(4), 141-147. doi:10.1080/87567555.2010.484032

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, D. R. (2012). Adjunct faculty embraced: The institution's responsibility. *Christian Education Journal, 9*(2), 396-407. Retrieved from http://www.biola.edu

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

Bowling Green State University Libraries (2015, July). Library liaison models in academic libraries. Retrieved August 15, 2015 from http://libguides.bgsu.edu/libraryliaisonmodels

Colgate University Libraries (2014, August). Liaison program at the Colgate University Libraries: Information for the library faculty. Retrieved August 15, 2015 from http://exlibris.colgate.edu/about/departments/acquisitions/Liasoninfo-for-libfac.html

University of Connecticut Libraries (n.d). University of Connecticut libraries academic liaison program. Retrieved August 15, 2015 from http://lib.uconn.edu/services/research/subject-specialists/university-of-connecticut-libraries-academic-liaison-program/

University of South Dakota University Libraries (2012). The role of librarians today: The liaison librarian. Retrieved August 15, 2015 from http://www.usd.edu/library/specialists

Wayne State University Libraries (2015, July). Toolkit for librarian liaisons. Retrieved August 15, 2015 from http://guides.lib.wayne.edu/LiaisonToolkit