

MILEX Committee Meeting
Friday, June 1, 2007, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Frostburg State University

Present: Thomas Arendall-Salvetti; Sharon Casey; Sarah Crest; Stephen Ford; Sean Henry; Mary Huebner; Jeff Maehre; Barbara Mann; Sara Nixon; Virginia Polley; Simmona Simmons-Hodo; Brandy Whitlock.

The minutes for the March 16, 2007 meeting were approved.

Report from the Chair (Sarah Crest)

Sarah recapped the group's decision to sponsor a major conference every other year rather than every year. Salisbury University is applying for a FIPSE grant to use evidence-based practice to integrate information literacy into their university curriculum. Sarah has written a letter of support representing MILEX in support of Salisbury's efforts.

Assessment Workshop (Thomas Arendall-Salvetti)

Thinking about having a round table discussion – 4 parts

- What is it?
- What's out there in general?
- What have people used? (For example, SAILS)
- Participants talk about what they've done on their own campuses

Some of the group's suggestions for topics include:

- Has anyone tried the ETS Eskills?
- What other techniques have been used?
- Interest in information beyond description of assessment
 - Want samples of instruments and/or outcome data
 - What happens with the outcome?
 - How have assessment outcomes been tied to ACRL standards?
 - How have faculty and librarians collaborated on assessment?
 - What should we be assessing?
 - Sean & Jeff will be working with English Profs – Prof teaches content - librarian does orientation
 - “Go for the Gold” project at JMU was mentioned (by Brandy?)
 - The ISST assessment is mentioned at <http://www.lib.jmu.edu/gold/isst.htm>
 - Below are some things from ACRL Conference:
 - <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/assessment/index.html>
 - Sara Nixon has pulled all papers and handouts from ACRL 2007 on assessment contact her

MILEX Conference 2008 (Ginny Polley for Susan Cooperstein, Sara Nixon, Randy Smith)

Theme: Thinking Critically

- Emphasis on practical rather than theoretical
 - For example, use of problem-solving, case studies

Venue/Schedule/Pricing

- Susan Cooperstein is investigating Loyola at Columbia as a venue because of its central location and proximity to eating places
- All day conference – allow flexible times to work around teaching schedules
 - Morning session ~ 10:00-12:30
 - Lunch on your own ~ 12:30-2:00 (requires location with nearby eating)
 - Afternoon session ~ 2:00-4:30
 - Evening catered dinner with keynote speaker ~ 5:00-7:30
 - Price each segment separately to allow people to choose which session(s) they want to/are able to attend. Give price break for registering for all three.
- *Group suggested* that lunch be part of the program. Some of the issues raised:
 - Commuter concerns – gets too late in the evening for people who need to drive a distance? More people might come to a luncheon speaker than a dinner speaker?
 - Have 2 keynote speakers? One lunch, one dinner? Same speaker and same speech? Different speakers or same speaker different speeches?

Marketing/Publicity

- Publicize at orientations, faculty meetings, etc. at the beginning of the academic year
- Target new faculty and adjuncts especially
- Try to find unique niche to stand out from all the other events/meetings in the area
- *Group suggested:*
 - Contact local DC instruction librarians' group
 - Contact other regional groups – Del, PA, etc.
 - Post call for presenters to Marylib, ILI-L (Would need some kind of selection criteria – need to weed those with good ideas but bad presentation skills)
 - Suggest each librarian attending bring at least one faculty member along

Keynote Speaker or Presenter Suggestions

- Possible topics include: Questioning authority; technology & social software; measuring/assessing critical thinking skill; and opinion v. supported argument
- *Group suggestions:*
 - Ken Bain (NYU) author *What the Best College Teachers Do*
 - David Weinberger author *Everything is Miscellaneous*
 - Brandy will talk to a James Madison professor who uses an innovative critical thinking approach
 - Brandy is also working with a Philosophy prof to revamp curriculum for critical thinking and may be willing to present
 - Tami Smith and Elizabeth Nix (UB) librarian + history faculty member (suggestion from Thomas Arendall-Salveti in an email follow-up to the meeting)

If you have further ideas for speakers or topics contact Ginny at vpolley@mail.vjc.edu

Suggestions for future MILEX meetings were offered:

- Stephen suggested a program on how to market IL/critical thinking to faculty at our own universities
- Beth Mulherrin (in an E-mail) suggests the UMUC director of science who she saw at MDLA talking about an IL in the sciences online workshop for faculty where a UMUC librarian worked with sciences faculty to develop IL assignments

MILEX Web site Content (Stephen Ford)

IL links need a structure. Want to revisit making our own materials from past workshops accessible to the public.

- Stephen has a list of the categories that were on the Web site when we were IIG, including IL overview, collaboration w/ faculty, collaborative/group work, web tutorials, learning communities, assessment, assignment design, instruction hardware & software (technology), instruction classroom, distance learning, and academic integrity
- Stephen will reintroduce the topics to the Web site and welcomes any additional suggestions that member have for the resource area
- Member assignment: Identify resources and suggested readings for the Web site under the categories above and send your list in APA format to Stephen at saford@salisbury.edu by Friday, July 6, 2007. Sara will send out a reminder on June 22nd.

Initiatives for IL across Maryland (Barb Mann)

- Members of MILEX can serve as “evangelists” for the cause of information literacy, which involves recognizing an information need, finding information to meet that need, and then evaluating it and using it effectively, efficiently, ethically and legally.
- There are numerous ways what MILEX might contribute to the cause including:
 - Hosting a regional ACRL Institute of Information Literacy (Immersion) as a way to provide opportunities for librarians within Maryland to be “immersed” into information literacy in order to strength their own programs and understandings at less cost than to have to travel to the national program. This can also serve to bolster enthusiasm “for the cause.”
 - Partnering with local high schools in order to provide foundational information literacy skill building and understanding to students, which can then be reinforced and furthered during their higher education experiences.
 - Providing a mentoring service/resource to new /inexperienced in information literacy librarians in order to help them build their programs and gain a better foundation
 - Reaching out to UMCP-CLIS students as they are the future librarians and this is an area often lacking in library science programs

Thanks to all who contributed to the minutes!

Next meeting is **THURSDAY, July 12, 2007**, 10 a.m. – noon, at Villa Julie College, hosted by Ginny Polley. She reminds us not to count on wireless! See the MILEX Web site at <http://www.milexmd.org/meetings.html> for driving directions and campus map with parking designated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Nixon
Secretary, MILEX
7 June 2007