

# MILEX History

In October 2002, librarians from across the University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) convened at the University of Maryland Baltimore County's Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery to discuss information literacy issues. The intent of the initial meeting focused on forming a collaborative effort within the USMAI to support information literacy efforts on individual campuses within the system.

The University of Maryland Collaborative (UMC), as the group was initially known, focused its first efforts on obtaining grant funding to support the collaborative development of faculty workshops (and financial incentives for faculty to attend those workshops) designed to enhance faculty awareness of and provide faculty training on information literacy.

Subsequently, the focus of the UMC changed. Projects under consideration include the collaborative development of templates and course proposals for information literacy instruction as well as the development of resources for use in online course environments.

In Fall 2005, the UMC members voted to change the name of the group to **MILEX—Maryland Information Literacy Exchange** and to open up membership in the group to the wider community of Maryland academic libraries (university, college and community college). The hope is that broader participation in the group will enrich collaborative development and broaden the sharing of resources focused on awareness of and instruction in information literacy.

An ongoing effort is the involvement in local and regional conferences (such as MEMO and MLA) to highlight academic integrity issues and the information literacy activities of the **MILEX** and its active member librarians.

Currently, **MILEX** is planning information literacy conferences and workshops. The focus of these events is also academic integrity and information literacy awareness and training.

UH/SEC



Meet **MILEX**

The Maryland Information Literacy Exchange

A collaborative of Maryland higher education librarians

<http://www.milexmd.org>



## Maryland Information Literacy Exchange

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### Welcome to the Maryland Information Literacy Exchange

The Maryland Information Literacy Exchange (MILEX) is a collaborative of Maryland academic libraries to promote information literacy in higher education. MILEX members work together to develop better pedagogical, promotional, and organizational models and materials for Maryland librarians and faculty interested in information literacy.

# Information Literacy Defined

Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to -

*"recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."*

Information literacy is also increasingly important in the contemporary environment of rapid technological change and proliferating information resources. Because of the escalating complexity of this environment, individuals are faced with diverse, abundant information choices—in their academic studies, in the workplace, and in their personal lives.

## Meet MILEX

Thursday June 1, 2006  
9:00 - 12:00  
Towson University

### RSVP

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<http://www.milexmd.org>



## Partnering to Develop Information Literacy Programs

**M**ILEX members seek to provide program support that encourages development and excellence in Information Literacy programs at higher education institutions. Using the combined expertise of the organization's members, we strive to create and facilitate librarian and faculty training programs that promote the benefits of a collaborative effort that enhances student learning.

### MILEX Mission

Maryland Information Literacy Exchange

MILEX is a collaborative of Maryland higher education instruction librarians.

Our mission is to -

- Assist in the development and support of Information Literacy programs at member institutions
- Develop specific end products (such as assignment templates) that support the goals of Information Literacy
- Identify "best practices" in Information Literacy
- Develop Information Literacy workshops for faculty
- Work to foster the continuum of Information Literacy initiatives from K-16



## Promoting Information Literacy in Higher Education

*Information increasingly comes to individuals in unfiltered formats raising questions about its authenticity, validity, and reliability.*

*The sheer abundance of information will not in itself create a more informed citizenry without a complementary cluster of abilities necessary to use information effectively.*

ACRL, 1989

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