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LACUNY Instruction Committee Meeting Minutes, October 2006

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Minutes
LACUNY Instruction Committee Meeting
Baruch College Library room
Oct. 13, 2006
2:00-4:00 pm

Members in Attendance:

Alexandra de Luise, Queens; Diane DiMartino, Baruch College; Robert Farrell, Borough of Manhattan CC; Jacqueline Gill, City College; Charles Keyes, LaGuardia CC; Karl Madden, Medgar Evers; Sandra Marcus, Queensborough CC; Keith Muchowski; NYC Tech; Susan Sciammarella, Queensborough CC

1. Members introduced themselves for the benefit of new members, Susan Sciammarella Information Literacy Librarian at QBCC and Karl Madden, Information Literacy Coordinator at Medgar Evers, and spoke about assessment efforts at their schools:

Sandra Marcus, Coordinator of Instruction and IL at QBCC reported that course assessment is done online.

Diane DiMartino, Head of Information Services (Instruction and Reference), Baruch, said that at the end of workshops and course related lectures students are asked to write down a few new things they didn’t already know in a one-minute assessment.

Keith Muchowski, Reference and Instruction Librarian at NYC Tech said assessment is given in a select number of classes of EG101, consisting of a pre and post test questionnaire. Previously it was administered in paper but is now done electronically. Keith will share the email address of the test with members.

Jackie Gill, Bibliographic Instruction Coordinator and Reference Librarian, City College, does a random pre and post test for their 2-class sessions (5 classes are picked out of a total of 29). Questions are scrambled but are the same on both tests. Conclusions drawn from the assessment: some questions need revising and students need longer library sessions.

Robert Farrell, Information Literacy Librarian, BMCC, reported that they will be doing assessment in a program of instruction with six speech classes (2 library sessions each). Assessment will consist of reviewing the students’ bibliographies with the use of a rubric.

Alexandra de Luise, Coordinator of Instructional Services, Queens, discussed the assessment done currently within English 110 classes, which consists of a multiple-choice quiz administered to classes who came in for a Library session, and the reading of students’ research papers in five classes, using a rubric chosen for this purpose. Results are shared with the participating English 110 faculty and library instructors.
2. The topic of peer assessment was brought up. Most agreed that it is difficult to evaluate ourselves. Peer assessment is taking place at Baruch (instructors being reviewed by fellow instructors), as a way to see what others are doing. Comments are then pulled together.

3. Charles Keyes, Instructional Services Librarian, LGACC, said that at his institution, information literacy is defined as a skill, along with reading, writing and quantitative computer skills. Information Literacy is referred to as one of the seven "core competencies" that students should be able demonstrate, along with critical literacy (reading, writing, and critical thinking); oral communication; quantitative reasoning, research & IL, and technological literacy.

This led to a discussion of rubrics, and the reliability of rubrics as an assessment scoring mechanism. Mention was made of the Univ. of South Dakota assessment tool that LGACC is going to use as a trial. Rubrics have been developed by LGACC librarians and English faculty for written assignments and will be used in future classes.

5. Plans are being finalized for the upcoming LACUNY Instruction Committee-sponsored panel discussion, scheduled for Friday March 16, 2007 on "Information Literacy as a Gen Ed Requirement" to be held at LGACC featuring Dr. Betsy Barefoot, Co-Director, Policy Center on the First Year of College Brevard College, Brevard, NC. Time of the event will likely be 9am to 12 pm and will include a continental breakfast.

3. The next LACUNY Instruction committee meeting will be held before the Lacuny Winter Membership meeting on Friday December 8, 2006. More information to follow.

4. Tabled for discussion for the next meeting: Alexandra de Luise’s report on Immersion, which she took part in this past summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra de Luise
Queens College