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LACUNY Instruction Committee Meeting Minutes, December 2005

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Members in Attendance:
Alexandra de Luise, Queens; Robert Farrell, Borough of Manhattan CC; Erleen Harris, Medgar Evers; Charles Keyes, LaGuardia CC; Sandra Marcus, Queensborough CC; Edward Owusu-Ansah, Staten Island

The meeting was brought to order at 12 Noon.

There were two major discussions at the meeting. One was on how librarians can affect a leadership role. One way discussed was through freeing up librarians’ time to go to meetings, such as this one. In order to enhance the image of our profession, one has to be out there, participating in discussions and networking. To be able to take the time to do this, one must make sure the office is adequately covered in one’s absence. This led to a question of whether one could use library interns or volunteers to cover spaces of time when a professional librarian is out of the office. The majority felt that for contract and other reasons, this form of assistance would not be adequate by itself. The LACUNY Instruction wiki might be a good place to continue this discussion (at: http://lacunyinstruction.seedwiki.com)

The other discussion was led primarily by Edward and Robert concerned the topic of a recent ILI-L listserv discussion and our wiki, whether we do well to have stand-alone library courses or whether they need to be embedded within another course, to give them more meaning. Do students get less out of a course that is stand-alone because they’re looking for information for the sake of information? Are assessment outcomes for students in a stand-alone course based on class work or knowledge gained that can be transferred to a subject-based course? This led to a philosophical exchange on thinking and learning how to think. Questions raised during this discussion will be followed-up in future meetings as agendas allow.

Agenda items not covered and left for the next meeting were:

- Theme for a possible event
- Discussion of “Chucking the Checklist” Marc Meola’s 2004 article that is available through Project Muse

Future meeting dates are the following: February 24, March 24, May 12 (Place to be announced.)

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Alexandra de Luise, Co-Chair
Queens College/CUNY

Charles Keyes, Co-Chair
LaGuardia Community College/CUNY