**Report of the Graduate Library Programs and Information Literacy Subcommittee 2012-2013 activities
Submitted by Heather Dalal, September 13, 2013.**

**Subcommittee members:** Nancy Becker, Heather Dalal, Nicholas Jackson, Leslie Murtha, & Lynee Richel Dokus

**Executive Summary:** The members of the committee looked at local LIS courses, library literature, VALE conference attendees, and Rutgers LIS students and we confirmed there is a problem that librarians are graduating LIS programs without a course in information literacy education. These courses are listed in the program but are not popular and often canceled due to lack of enrollment. LIS students at Rutgers appear to be more interested in internships and experience than learning the theory.

**September 2012 meeting** At the September 2012 joint meeting of the VALE SIL and NJLA CUS User Education meeting, the subcommittee shared a review of local LIS graduate programs and a literature review(appendices A and B). Some members wanted to go to LIS schools and talk to the students about taking the user education courses. It was decided that was premature. The subcommittee decided to have a panel at the Vale Conference with a recent graduate, an instruction librarian, a Library school faculty member, and a hiring manager.

**2013 VALE Users Conference Panel:** The subcommittee participated on a panel at the 2013 VALE Users Conference entitled: *Where are Librarians Learning the Skills Necessary to be Competent and Effective Teachers?* The audience echoed the panelists’ experiences and concerns agreeing that instruction was indeed a large part of a librarian’s job and it is not routinely taught in graduate LIS programs. Suggestions were to better advertise the course to LIS students. See Conference Abstract, Handout, and Recorder notes in Appendices C, D, and E. **Post Conference Survey Results :** At the Vale Conference session, we announced a survey. This yielded only 3 responses, but the suggestions are worth noting. Please see Appendix F for the survey results.

**Connecting to Library Schools** We received contact information for graduate student leaders at other LIS programs : Rutgers SCI: Lilia Pavlovsky, pavlovsk@rutgers.edu Pitt: Sheila Corrall, scorrall.pitt@gmail.com
Drexel: Jennifer Lally, jl352@drexel.edu St. John's: Jeffrey Olson, olsonj@stjohns.edu

**Outreach to Palmer** The NJLA CUS Membership Committee has extended students membership rates to the students of the Palmer School’s M.S. program. This did not include any discussion of the courses.

**Outreach to Rutgers SCI via SCARLA** (Student College, Academic, and Research Libraries Association)

* **“What’s the Big Deal About Library Instruction?”** The NJLA CUS Membership Committee and SCARLA hosted a Panel and H. Dalal was invited to participate. See Appendix G. Other panelists included Lisa DeLuca and Kate Scherler, both recent graduates, who talked about the demand to teach on the job. Another panelist was Judit Ward who talked about her employment of students in the Center of Alcohol Studies at Rutgers. Heather shared how she decided that earning a degree in instructional design was needed to do her job! The students attending were more interested in experience over the course.
* **The Writing Performance Objectives & Delivering Assessments Workshop** (L.Richel Dokus & H.Dalal) was advertised to the library school students. One attended and posted about it in the SCARLA blog. <http://scarla.rutgers.edu/1/post/2013/05/setting-and-assessing-instructional-goals.html>
* **SCARLA** continues to seek this issue independent of this subcommittee. A student group presented a poster at NJLA. However their focus seems to be on gaining experience over taking the courses. <http://njlaconference.info/content/whats-big-deal-about-library-instruction>