

THE RLLF CURRICULUM: PREPARING EXECUTIVE LEADERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008

2:00 P.M.—3:00 P.M. • SALON I

Moderator

Chris Avery, Head, University College Libraries and Collection Development Coordinator for Commonwealth Campus Libraries, Pennsylvania State University

Contributors

Patrick Dawson, Dean of Libraries, Northern Illinois University

Tracey Robinson, Head, Office for Information Systems, Harvard University

Scott Walter, Associate University Librarian for Services and Associate Dean of Libraries University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Background

The Research Library Leadership Fellows (RLLF) Program is an executive leadership program jointly designed and sponsored by ARL member libraries. It offers an opportunity for development of future senior level leaders in large research libraries.

The program curriculum is purposely designed to expand the Fellows understanding of the leadership role played by research libraries in the current higher education environment. The instructional design is built around group learning and focuses on domains such as the changing role of research library leadership and the practical aspect of running an organization. Within these domains, issues of primary importance to contemporary research library leadership, including those being addressed by ARL's strategic directions, are presented with opportunities for discussion and reflection.

Sponsoring library directors, library leaders, and ARL faculty provide experiences that expand the Fellows' understanding of the leadership role played by research libraries in the current higher education environment. Integrating the Fellows' own learning goals, the Program design identifies "big picture" issues that are most pressing for future leaders of large research libraries. These topics are the focus of institutes that are designed and facilitated by active leaders in the ARL community. The RLLF curriculum is enhanced through site visits to participating ARL libraries, attendance at ARL Membership Meetings, and opportunities to go to other meetings where ARL member leaders are present.

During this session, Fellows will draw on their personal experience to describe how the different components of the RLLF Program contribute to the program's objectives and will offer observations on curriculum elements for succession planning programs.