

RECRUITMENT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008

2:00 P.M.—3:00 P.M. • PLAZA B

Discussion Leaders

Mary Ann Mavrinac, Chief Librarian, University of Toronto at Mississauga

Kate Oliver, Associate Director for Information Services Research, Development and Communication, Welch Medical Library, Johns Hopkins University

Wendy Scott, Assistant Director for Organizational Design and Learning, North Carolina State University

Nancy Seamans, Dean of Libraries, Georgia State University

Martha Whitehead, Associate University Librarian, Queen's University

Includes presentations by

Nancy Roderer, Director of the Welch Medical Library and the Division of Health Sciences Informatics, Johns Hopkins University, and President of ASIS&T

Leslie Weir, Chief Librarian, University of Ottawa

Background

Recruitment of staff with skills needed for the 21st century research library is a high priority for library leaders. To enlist the talent we need for the emerging digital knowledge environment, we may need to expand our recruitment horizon beyond innovative LIS graduate programs to also include discipline-specific graduate programs, such as digital humanities or business informatics.

This session will present two speakers who will describe innovative efforts to develop and identify graduate programs relevant to the needs of research libraries, and conclude with a presentation on a proposed recruitment effort by interested RLLF 2007-2008 fellows at programs such as the ones described by Ms. Weir and Ms. Roderer.

Leslie Weir, University Librarian at the University of Ottawa, will describe a new, innovative, multi-disciplinary graduate program at the University of Ottawa. Nancy Roderer, currently president of American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), will describe her efforts to identify information tracks in a broad range of graduate programs including, for example, those offered by Schools of Business.

The session will close with a description of a proposed recruitment program to be undertaken by interested graduates of the ARL RLLF program. The program would be a partnership of participating RLLF fellows, selected graduate programs such as those described by Mss. Weir and Roderer, and academic administrators. The proposed recruitment effort would involve presentations by the RLLF fellows to graduate students, and describe the innovative work and integrated academic mission of 21st century Research Libraries. The goal of the proposed recruitment effort by RLLF fellows is to apply the leadership skills acquired in the ARL program by engaging graduate students in our mission, and helping to shape curriculum and career choices of graduate students in ways that would meet the needs of the Academy and its libraries. Feedback on the proposal from session attendees will help to shape the final funding proposal to IMLS in December.