

Law and Political Science Section

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

1. ACRL expands regional, national and international adoption, use and development of information literacy standards.

LPSS continues to promote our, "Political Science Research Competency Guidelines." In particular, in summer of 2009, LPSS created a brochure about the Guidelines, that were distributed at the American Political Science Association meetings in September 2009.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

2. Strengthen ACRL's relationships with higher education organizations that are important to faculty and administrators in order to develop institutional understand of librarians' roles in enhancing teaching and learning.

The Law and Political Science Section had a strong presence at the September, 2009 American Political Science Association annual meeting in Toronto. We organized a short course, "Library 2.0: Knowledge, Power and Pedagogy in Net Space -- Evolving Collaborations and Roles" and also hosted an LPSS booth in the exhibit hall. LPSS Past Chair Ann Marshall, Vice Chair Chris Palazzolo, and this year's LPSS Marta Lange awardee, Bruce Pencek, were all present to help staff the booth and to network with APSA attendees. In addition, LPSS networked and collaborated with a number of Toronto area librarians and faculty through these initiatives. In addition, representatives from the both i-School in Toronto and the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University were also important collaborators.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Learning

3. ACRL increases member abilities to create and manage physical and virtual spaces and services as environments for discovery.

LPSS organized our second annual virtual meetings for ALA Midwinter meetings in January 2009. We again conducted a survey to assess both the successes and challenges of holding meetings through such a venue.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity

1. Strengthen ACRL's role in serving as a catalyst for and supporting transformative change in scholarly communication systems.

In the fall 2009 LPSS Newsletter, LPSS published a review of two legal databases, LexisNexis Academic and Westlaw's Campus Research, both of which contain electronic materials that aimed at legal scholars. At ALA Annual 2009, LPSS Vendor/Publisher Review Committee hosted a panel of vendors to discuss their competing products that host scholarly content aimed at political scientists. The panel included: 1) Craig Brandt, Director, Humanities and Social Sciences, EBSCO Publishing, who discussed Political Science Complete, Public Affairs Index, and International Political Science Abstracts 2) Jill Blaemers, Senior Product Manager, Social Sciences, ProQuest, who discussed Worldwide Political Science Abstracts, PAIS International, and ProQuest Political Science and 3) David Horwitz, Vice President of Sales, Sage Publications, who discussed Sage Full Text Collection for Political Science.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity

2. Enhance ACRL members' ability to provide education, advocacy, and coalition building to support transformative change in scholarly communication systems

Dr. Derrick Cogburn, who holds a joint appointment at American University and Syracuse University, presented "Distributed Collaboration through Accessible Cyber Infrastructure-enabled Knowledge Community," at an LPSS organized short course at the American Political Science Association (APSA) meetings. This presentation can be viewed online at:

https://media.library.utoronto.ca/play.php?APSA1_8.mov.ff&id=478&access=public

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity

3. Enhance ACRL members' understanding of how scholars work and the systems, tools, and technology to support the evolving work of the creation, personal organization, aggregation, discovery, preservation, access and exchange of information in all formats.

At the 2009 LPSS organized APSA short course, LPSS members collaborated with scholars on two speaking events; both of which are available online: 1) LPSS member Bruce Pencek collaborated with Virginia Tech faculty members, Craig Brians and Scott Nelson, to discuss: "'Stories': How to Help Undergrads Discover, Define, and Keep their Research on Track" and 2) LPSS member Jenny Mendelsohn collaborated with U. of Toronto faculty member Michael Stein and U. of Toronto graduate student Evan Rosevear, to discuss, "A Collaborative Model for Maximal Learning in the M.A. Political Science Research Seminar: Faculty, Graduate Student and Librarian Perspectives." These speaking events are available to all LPSS members and the library community at large at

https://media.library.utoronto.ca/play.php?APSA1_3.mov.ff&id=467&access=public and

https://media.library.utoronto.ca/play.php?APSA1_5.mov.ff&id=468&access=public

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity

4. Strengthen ACRL's relationships with learned societies to expand membership knowledge of disciplinary practices in scholarship.

The ACRL Board of Directors at ALA Annual 2009 approved LPSS's request to establish a formal liaison relationship with the American Political Science Association. In the Fall 2009 newsletter, outgoing Newsletter Editor Bruce Pencek, published an article, titled "Liaison Yourself," urging LPSS members to become active liaisons within the scholarly disciplines and also suggesting practical tips of the who, what, when and how of networking with organizations, such as: APSA Teaching & Learning Conference, APSA Political Science Education Section, and the APSA Information Technology & Politics Section. In addition, LPSS continues to actively reach out to other organizations, such as: the Association of Law Librarians and the International Studies Association.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Advocacy

1. Increase ACRL's influence on campus information, academic, and communication technology priorities.

At ALA annual 2009, LPSS organized a program titled, "Political Engagement: Facilitating Greater Participation in Civil Society," which focused on how librarians can promote advocacy and discussion of critical issues in a campus environment. Speakers included, 1) Elizabeth Hollander, Senior Fellow, Tufts University's Tisch College, and former Executive Director of Campus Compact, 2) Nancy Kranich, Lecturer, Rutgers School of Communication, Information and Library Sciences, and former President of the American Library Association, and 3) Joanne Griffin, Business Reference Librarian, and Holly Sorensen, Assistant Director, work at Des Plaines Public Library – the site of the FY 2006 LSTA-funded Building Community through Creative Conversations program.

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Advocacy

2. Increase ACRL's communication on major trends and issues in libraries and higher education.

For the first time, LPSS made their 2009 program (see above) available as a podcast (<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2009/09/18/acrl-podcast-political-engagement/>). Also, the presentation slides (along with a lot of other info. on LPSS activities) are also available online: <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/lpss/conferences.cfm>

Strategic Area: Higher Education and Research

Goal Area: Advocacy

3. Strengthen partnerships with other organizations.

Please see: Higher Education and Research, #4.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

2. Increase the accessibility of learning opportunities to meet the diverse needs of members by relying on research and best practices for design, delivery, and accessibility.

LPSS has been pursuing strategies for most efficiently and effectively maintaining our online presence. In March of 2010, LPSS released a report, "LPSS Online Presence: Proposal for Posting Section Information in Various Online Locations." It defines and creates guidelines for LPSS's online presence (web site, ALA Connect, Facebook, ACRL wiki, LPSS blog); highlights appropriate locations for key existing content (e.g. conference schedule); and describes potential new content (e.g. conference program calendar) and locations. Many of the steps in the document have already begun to be implemented.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

3. Increase ACRL's agility in providing cutting-edge content for learning programs and publications.

At ALA 2010, LPSS's program, titled, "Participatory Democracy in an Internet Age," will focus on how the Internet is intersecting with politics and examine how these tools may alter campaigns, politics, revenue streams and participatory democracy. The panelists include: 1) Julie Barko Germany, director for the Institute for Politics, Democracy & the Internet and director of marketing and communications for The George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management and has just taken a job as Vice President of Digital Strategy at DCI Group, 2) Dave Karpf, a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Brown University's Taubman Center for Public Policy and 3) Decker Ngongang is the Vice President of Programs for Mobilize.org.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

4. Expand ACRL's continuous learning opportunities on advocating the value of the library, the value of the librarian, and the value of information.

LPSS designed and funded an LPSS Banner, which can be used to publicize ACRL and LPSS at a whole host of events.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Leadership

2. Design and deliver tools to ACRL members to empower them to communicate the value of their contributions to learning and scholarship.

In the fall 2009 newsletter, LPSS recognized Nadine Hoffmann, at the University of Calgary, as a "member to know." The column highlights Hoffmann's achievements and serves to empower other LPSS members in their own professional development.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Leadership

3. Increase recognition of the value of libraries and librarians by leaders in higher education, information technology, funding agencies, and campus decision making.

Bruce Pencek, assistant professor and college librarian for the social sciences at Virginia Tech, is the 2010 Marta Lange/CQ Press Awardee. Pencek is well recognized both inside and outside of LPSS as "an innovator and leader in establishing connections and collaborating with political science faculty." To read more about Bruce's accomplishments, see: <http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/story.php?relyear=2010&itemno=107>

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Information Technology

2. Build ACRL's capacity to partner with other technology-oriented higher education organizations to identify standards and best practices for managing digital libraries and digital library services.

See: Learning #2.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Information Technology

3. Support members in their exploration, research on, and implementation of new and emerging information technologies and their application for library services in educational environments.

See: Continuous Learning #2

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Membership

1. Expand the appeal of ACRL membership among current members with a special focus on those new to the profession and early in their careers.

LPSS has an active Membership Committee, that has been involved in a variety of outreach activities, including: organizing a social at 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, reaching out on an individual basis to new LPSS members, and reviewing LPSS membership information and strategizing about how to promote LPSS during difficult economic times.

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Organizational Vitality and Effectiveness

3. Increase and improve ACRL's organizational use of information technology.

See: Continuous Learning #2

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Sustainability

1. Expand commitment to adopting green and sustainable business practices for ACRL offices, conferences, continuing education and operations with business partners.

LPSS has promoted green and sustainable business practices by, for the second year, holding our Midwinter meetings virtually. In addition, this year, we have more information about our programming (in the form of online video, podcasts, etc) on our website than in previous years. In addition, in-line with ACRL objectives, LPSS switched from a paper to an online newsletter.