

ACRL ANSS Criminal Justice/Criminology Discussion Group Report  
ALA Midwinter, Dallas, Saturday, 21 Jan. 2012

Dr. Ellen D. Safley, conducted an excellent presentation and discussion about building collections, building liaisons in criminology and criminal justice. She serves as Director of Libraries, Public Services & Collections Division, and Criminology Collections/Subject Specialist, at the University of Texas, at Dallas. Her subthemes were : collections development, liaison with faculty, and research assistance. In her introduction, she focused on identifying your goals and population served, surveying faculty for their suggestions and needs, defining the curriculum, reading book reviews, and determining format preferences, i.e., print vs. electronic resources and publications. For her emerging program, she developed a research collection for a new PhD program in criminal justice. She finds the "suggest a title form" online as very useful for receiving recommendations from faculty and students. She purchases books from Yankee Book Peddler and Focuses on the U. S. Department of Justice as a major Source of publications. She also uses the Journal Citation Reports (ISI Thomson Reuters) as an important source for selecting and reviewing scholarly journal titles in criminal justice and criminology. And Media, including DVDs, is an important format she selects for the collection. She provides regular liaison activities and services and Schedules research assistance appointments with faculty and students.

Dr. Ellen Safley also mentioned she had served as an ANSS Member at Large representative several years ago; we have been very grateful for her leadership in and with ANSS. We also appreciated her very valuable presentation and the lively discussion among the attendees. Her comments and ideas will be significant in helping attendees improve and enhance their collections and services in criminal justice and criminology to their library users.

In addition, we briefly discussed possible topics for the ALA Annual Meeting in Anaheim in June 2012.

Submitted by Sally Willson Weimer, Co-convenor,  
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