

Law and Political Science Section (LPSS)

Submitter: Rosalind Tedford

Title: Chair

Plan for Excellence Activity Reporting

Value of Academic Libraries

Goal: Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes.

1. Articulate a research agenda that communicates the value of academic and research libraries.

We put together a program at ALA Annual conference in Orlando with the Arts Section on political cartooning. We had Michael Osbun, a political cartoonist and illustrator come speak. This year we also continued to plan for the revival of the Statistical Sources on the web project. We believe we will make use of the new ACRL Libguides platform for this and will create a new ad-hoc committee to work on this along with GODORT and DIIG in the 2016-2017 year.

2. Promote the impact and value of academic and research libraries to the higher education community.

We continue to have a representative to the American Political Science Association from LPSS. We had two LPSS members apply to be the Social Sciences committee representative to the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

Student Learning

Goal: Advance innovative practices and environments that transform student learning.

1. Challenge librarians and libraries to engage every student with information literacy skills and in a way that is scalable and sustainable.

We followed the work of WGSS and the Journalism committee in EBSS to see how they were adapting the Information Literacy Standards in their disciplines to the new Framework for Information Literacy. We will be forming an ad-hoc committee in the 2016-2017 academic year to begin the work in translating our Standards for Political Science to the new Framework model.

Research and Scholarly Environment

Goal: Librarians accelerate the transition to more open and equitable systems of scholarship.

2. Enhance members' capacity to address issues related to scholarly communication, including but not limited to data management, library publishing, open access, and digital scholarship.

Our ad hoc committee that will be working on the statistical sources on the web project will keep in mind issues of data management and curation that come with the use of open data sources in research.

Enabling Programs and Services

Publications

We transferred to a new web page in 2015 and continue to publish a bi-annual newsletter for members that highlights LPSS members and special projects. The newsletter also includes reviews and information about new resources of interest to membership.

Member Engagement

One of our big projects for the year was changing the name of the section in hopes of encouraging more member engagement and reaching new groups of librarians who may have found our former name offputting. As we have very few law librarians in the section but a growing number of librarians in tangential disciplines, we decided to rename the section the Politics, Policy and International Relations section. We will carry out a publicity program this fall to reach librarians in Public Policy, International Relations, Peace Studies and more in an effort to build membership in the section going further.