Bibliographic Instruction: Some Notes From The Field

Library Faculty Fellows Program Guilford College Summer 1979

The purpose of this program is to enable members of the Guilford College faculty to improve their effectiveness as teachers by learning how to identify and use appropriate resources of the college library in the preparation of their courses, and to provide instruction in the methods of library research to students in those courses. It is assumed that faculty members are less familiar with a college library than with a specialized portion of a university library, and that students seldom learn to carry out a sound research strategy without assistance from their teachers. The Library Faculty Fellow Program challenges the traditional assumption that these difficulties solve themselves, and seeks to enhance the contribution of the library to the educational process at Guilford College.

I. Presentation of an ideal research process for college students—"Why They Write Such Poor Research Papers" (Because, for one thing, They Don't Understand Library Organization).

II. Review of the library's monographic, serial, A-V, and other holdings in the faculty member's discipline—with reference to standard listings for basic collections.

III. Practice in using key library resources which have not yet been incorporated into course work (N. B.: Teachers may use these in class or send students to them in the library.)

IV. Assistance in drawing up course assignments for students which—given the objectives of the course—insure that students learn to locate and use specific library resources helpful to them, and to employ a sound research strategy in identifying and locating appropriate library materials for their course work.

V. Instruction and assistance in the selection and/or production and use of non-book materials for both classroom and individual learning.

Plan Of Action

Each library fellow will spend at least 120 hours at work on the LFFP project(s) listed in his or her proposal to the Faculty Development Committee. It is advisable for each fellow to concentrate on one or two courses as he/she prepares instructional materials for the students.

It is advisable for each fellow to keep a notebook or journal for recording notes, progress, ideas for future work, reflections, sketches, and expenses. (Unless the group makes other arrangements, each fellow should purchase his or her own materials and keep his/her own accounts.)

Each fellow should examine his/her progress in the light of his/her written ob-

jectives for the program on a weekly basis.

Two extra copies of all instructional materials prepared should be made: one for the Faculty Development Committee and one for the library files.

Group meetings for faculty fellows will be scheduled for 9A.M. on the first four Mondays and Wednesdays of the program. Other instructional sessions will be scheduled for 9 A.M. whenever possible. We hope that afternoons, evenings, and the latter parts of mornings will be "free" time for independent work. In a sense, fellows should expect to find one another in the library most weekday mornings, which will facilitate joint efforts. Each fellow will meet with the project librarians on a weekly basis until his projects are complete.

Each fellow should give serious consideration to publishing an account of this faculty development experience in some journal devoted to college instruc-

tion.

Instructional Sessions

1. Introduction; Objectives; Background

2. Introduction to A-V resources in the college

3. Classification Systems & the Card Catalog

4. Indexing & Abstracting Services; Microfilm

5. Reference — Pamphlets; Biographical Resources Reference — Statistical Resources; Handbooks; Atlases
Reference — Government Documents

8. Resources beyond our library

9. Trip to UNC-Greensboro Library

As the summer progresses, samples of instructional materials and articles on the bibliographic instruction movement in its many forms will be shared with faculty fellows. All fellows are encouraged to contribute to this pool of resources. The library owns several book and subscribes to journals devoted to the application of book and non-book library resources to the college curriculum.

Library/Media Program at Anson Jr. High Expanding

The library/media program at Anson Junior High School in Wadesboro, N. C. is in the process of expanding services to students and teachers. Anson Junior High School is the only junior high in Anson County and serves approximately 1400 students in grades seven through nine. There are two media specialists at the school, Marguerite Royals and Candy White.

One new program initiated during the 1979-80 school year is a learning center laboratory. Students are referred by teachers and guidance counselors to the lab to receive additional assistance with courses they are currently taking-Students are assisted by media center personnel to improve their "readin', ritin', and 'rithmetic" on a one-to-one basis. Hopefully this program will expand to serve accelerated students too by offering advanced studies for them.

The media center is also moving into more use of video equipment. During the fall, an orientation program dealing with the Title I ESEA reading and math programs was taped by media personnel. This program was presented to students involved in this program and their parents.

Another aspect of expanded video use is a proposed plan to tape various units of study in the English classes and then circulate the tapes among the English teachers as they study the unit in their classes. This way the teachers can capitalize on their strengths.

Another use of video to be used this year is filming on location at various businesses and industries in the community for classroom use. This will be like

bringing the field trip to the school.

Finally the media center is having a book fair and its first annual film festival this spring. Three 16mm motion pictures have been rented to show to the students. The seventh graders will see "Big Red"; the eighth grade will see "Kidnapped"; and the ninth grade will see "Jane Eyre". The students are really looking forward to these films.

In the following school year, the media center staff plans to expand current programs and initiate new ones to meet the educational plans and needs of the

faculty and students at Anson Junior High School.

Candice W. White Media Specialist Anson Junior High School

Required Bibliographic Instruction Course Implemented at Sandhills Community College

A course in bibliographic instruction was initiated spring quarter at Sandhills Community College, under the direction of Rose Anderson, Librarian, and Dean of Instruction Vaud Travis. Required of freshmen, Bib. Inst. 110 is offered one hour each week, and is being taught by a member of the library staff, Mrs. Lany McDonald. The course is also open to all students at any level as an elective, and special encouragement is offered those planning transfers to senior institutions. Designed to acquaint students with basic library research and organization, and to give experience in the use of library resources, the course is involving students in using the card catalog, periodical and newspaper indexes and other reference sources. A topical bibliography of sources gathered through library research will complete course requirements. Hopefully, the course will encourage a positive attitude toward the library as a primary source for educational development and personal enrichment, and will foster lifelong learning.

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