

2013-2014 CARLI Instruction Committee Deliverables: Assessment Webinar Series

The Instruction Committee held a three part webinar series focused on assessment of library instruction during fall 2013. The Committee selected the topic of assessment for the webinar series as a result of conversations and concerns at our own institutions in addition to anecdotal conversations committee members had with colleagues at other CARLI libraries. Such a series would also complement the CARLI sponsored IACRL preconference that focused on various aspects of assessment within the library.

The Committee chose to create a webinar series that would be presented at a specific time, recorded, and made available for later viewing. During our conversation about assessment we determined that each of our institutions was at a different place in their conversation about assessment. As a cross-section of the CARLI membership, we assumed that other institutions were also likely to be at varying stages in their conversations about assessment. By presenting three distinct webinars we were able to appeal to institutions at various points in the assessment process, while developing resources for institutions that may not yet have begun the assessment conversation.

The Committee initiated a call for proposals in order to identify those who are heavily involved in assessment efforts at their own institutions. As a committee, we identified three activities we believed were most important in establishing assessment within our libraries: pre-assessment preparation, the assessment itself, and post-assessment practices. We selected the presenters and proposals we felt would best address those specific topics. The series consisted of “Knowing is Half the Battle! Assessment in Academic Libraries” presented by Devin Savage, Jeannette Moss, and Chris Davidson, Northwestern University; “Using Rubrics to Assess Student Learning” presented by Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and “Assess, Assess, Assess, and Then?” presented by Jen-Chien Yu, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Each of the webinars was moderated by a member of the Committee, and ran for approximately 50 minutes.

The webinars are available on the CARLI website on the Instruction page of the Public Services section: <http://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/pub-serv/instruction>, under “Assessment of Library Instruction: Fall 2013 Webinar Series.”

The Committee strove to continue the conversation on assessment with two other events. As part of the “Assessment in a Day: IACRL Preconference,” in March 2014, the Instruction Committee hosted a panel presentation entitled: “Evidence-Based Library Instruction as an Assessment Tool.” The panel speakers included: Stefanie R. Bluemle, Amanda Y. Makula, and Margaret W. Rogal of Augustana College; F. Elizabeth Nicholson and Aimee Walker of North Central College; and Wendell Johnson of Northern Illinois University. On June 18, 2014, the Committee will host an Instruction & Assessment Showcase at Illinois Valley Community College. Presenters will demonstrate a variety of topics, including, but not limited to: self-assessment for instruction librarians, using pop culture themes in instruction, one-shot strategies, teaching with primary sources, program assessment, and flipped classroom activities. For all of these events, the Committee is grateful for the participation of our CARLI colleagues who have experience with various aspects of assessment.