

Forum on Librarianship 2

- Change magazine editor comment: “He reviewed a number of professions and they adopt a problem – orientation to teaching. LIS literature was mute on the issue. “Need to review other professions.”
- Need to review and depth of curriculum. This was a “gap” in the curriculum section of the forum.
- Everyone was talking at the forum. Were people listening to what each other was saying?
- What is the curriculum? What would the core courses be? What should be presented to the students?
- AASL/NCATE standards were helpful in evaluation of school library programs.
- Need to create or assess quality of distance learning programs. Need to ensure the distance learning programs are providing a quality educational experience. Perhaps, face-to-face component would help.
- Learning online is different from face-to-face learning. Online may be more rigorous. Requires more organization from the instructor.
- ALA is now providing online instruction and courses. Perhaps some university coursework may now be conducted outside the university.
- COA should now revisit the distance education issue. Perhaps a study is needed in view of possible revision of standards.
- Student input. From student perspective, most students are afraid of taking online classes. May be a lack of interaction with professors. Students felt a lack of face-to-face interaction with a professor.
- Have to get to the point where the professors ambience created by face-to-face must be translated to online.
- Cost of a full-time face-to-face education is prohibitive for many prospective students.
- Building community in an online environment is an important topic for faculty training.
- Century Scholarship awarded to disabled students.
 - Findings:
 - Good students are out there
 - Money makes it viable for them to stay in library school.
 - Mentoring to ensure they get a good job is key.
 - It’s not the just the curriculum, it’s the outreach and mentoring to a get a job.
- Question to the student at the table: What were you most pleased about and what were you most surprised about?
 - Passion of the people involved in the field.
 - Students do look to professors as role models.
 - Professors have taught from both educational and personal perspectives.

- Part-time students find it difficult to get the range of the course work.
Programs do not offer range of course work in the evening.
- Some programs build timetable of coursework around student time.

- Item for agenda: Partnership between COA and Council is on paper, but it is not a true partnership as outlined. ex: More communication and planning. Trends that COA sees in programs are not translated to Council so that Council would support COA in program improvement. If curriculum is an issue, then COA and Council should work together.
- Is Committee on Education active and working?
- Some states require teaching methods and strategies for school libraries.
- Need a discussion of needs of school libraries in library education.