

Five-Year Goals and Objectives

Value of Academic Libraries

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

Objectives:

1. Leverage existing research that will articulate and promote the value of academic and research libraries.

The 2014 North Dakota – Manitoba Chapter Symposium held in May on the University of Manitoba campus featured a keynote address, “Human Rights Issues in the 21st Century,” by Gregory Gordon, Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota. Prof. Gordon’s talk about the history of human rights and current challenges in the global arena was followed by presentations on regional library and archival collections that support teaching and research on human rights and peace and conflict studies. Attendees learned about the rich and varied library collections and archives of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights; the Truth & Reconciliation Commission on Indian Residential Schools Archives, University of Manitoba; the Canadian Mennonite University and Menno Simons College; the Peace and Conflict Studies Collection at St. Paul’s College, University of Manitoba; and the Nuremberg Trials Collection, University of North Dakota.

2. Increase research that demonstrates the value of academic and research libraries.
3. Increase the visibility of libraries in national conversations and activities focused on the value of higher education.

Chapter Chair, Mary Drewes, attended Chapters Council meeting and the Chapters Work Session at the ALA Midwinter meeting where the members discussed activities and actions that would increase their libraries’ visibility in national conversations and focus on their value to higher education.

4. Develop and deliver responsive professional development programs that build the skills and capacity for leadership and local data-informed and evidence-based advocacy.

In response to calls for professional development activities related to technical services, a session on “RDA: Theoretical Background, Practical Experiences” was organized for the annual symposium. The presentations dealt with the lineage of Resource Description and Access, its objectives, how and why it differs from AACR2, and how the University of North Dakota planned for and implemented RDA.

The establishment of data management services was another area of focus at the symposium. A session on the role of liaison librarians in the delivery of these services, as well as infrastructure and funding agencies’ policies that have an impact on the delivery of data management services were discussed.

Student Learning

Goal: Librarians transform student learning, pedagogy, and instructional practices through creative and innovative collaborations.

Objectives:

1. Identify innovative practices in learning environments and instruction that enable academic librarians to transform learning.

The annual symposium featured a 2-hour workshop on active learning. The session, entitled “Breaking the 4th Wall: Bringing the Real World into Your Teaching,” offered an opportunity to see new instruction methods in action, and inspired participants to incorporate similar techniques in their own teaching.

2. Articulate and advocate for the role of librarians in setting, achieving, and measuring institutional learning outcomes.
3. Increase partnerships with other organizations to advance the impact of Information Literacy on student learning.
4. Build capacity for the librarians’ role in supporting faculty and future faculty as they work to develop information literate students.

The Chapter invited members to read and submit comments on the draft Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education.

5. Increase understanding of new models of information fluency as pedagogy evolves.

Research and Scholarly Environment

Goal: Librarians accelerate the transition to a more open system of scholarship.

Objectives:

1. Increase the ways ACRL is an advocate and model for open dissemination and evaluation practices.
2. Enhance members’ capacity to address issues related to digital scholarship and data management.

The annual symposium presented a session on the open source digital repository shared by five institutions in North Dakota and Minnesota. In “Digital Horizons: The Ins and Outs of Managing Digital Content in the Consortial Setting,” the presenters discussed the past, present and future of this rich repository and the challenges faced in the development of this repository.

3. Influence scholarly publishing policies and practices toward a more open system.
4. Create and promote new mechanisms that reward and value open scholarship.

Enabling Programs and Services

1. Education

The Chapter held its annual spring Symposium on May 5, 2014, on the University of Manitoba campus, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Entitled “Beyond Borders,” the Symposium attracted over 45 librarians from several academic and research institutions in Manitoba and North Dakota. The full-day event featured 5 sessions on topics as diverse as human rights collections and archives, active learning, Resource Description and Access, data management, and digital repositories.

2. Publications

3. Advocacy

4. Member engagement

Registrants to the Chapter's annual symposium were invited to a "Getting to Know Our Colleagues" dinner held on May 4, 2014, the day before the symposium. This event was organized to foster relationship-building with colleagues in the region and to facilitate networking and informal sharing of information. Fourteen registrants attended this event.