Professional Development Committee

Annual Report 2011-2012

Committee members: Nathaniel King (chair), Kurt Blythe, Jacqueline Solis, Sara Suiter, Kirill Tolpygo.

Research Forum

The LAUNC-CH Research Forum was held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, from 1-4 p.m., in The Wilson Library. Panel sessions were held in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room and posters were displayed in the Saltarelli Room. Approximately 70 librarians, staff members, and students were in attendance.

The Committee explored alternatives to the traditional poster/paper lineup. We decided to change the paper sessions to panel sessions and we selected topics that were relevant to a wide section of the LAUNC-CH constituency.

We convened two panels and solicited panelists and moderators from UNC Libraries, NCSU Libraries, Duke University Libraries and the Triangle Research Libraries Network.

The call for posters was sent via email to the UNC-Chapel Hill Libraries, the School of Information and Library Science, and to area universities including Duke University, North Carolina State University, North Carolina Central University, UNCG, and Wake Forest. Messages were sent to the LAUNC-CH list as well. Participants submitted their proposals via web form on the LAUNC-CH site, and were notified of their acceptance status via email.

We received a total of sixteen poster proposals. Submissions came from colleagues at UNC-CH, SILS, Duke, UNC-G, and High Point University. In general, the quality of the submissions was outstanding. We tried to choose a variety of topics from varied institutions so there would be something for everyone. For the final program, twelve posters were displayed.

We secured sponsorship in the amount of $200 from the School of Information and Library Science. Their sponsorship was noted in the event's brochure and acknowledged during the Forum's opening remarks.

To the best of our knowledge, this was the first time that the Research Forum secured external sponsorship.

Panel Discussions:

The transformation of research library collections: access, ownership, and acquisition

Moderator:
Mona Couts, Executive Director, Triangle Research Libraries Network

Panelists:
Annette Day, Head, Collection Management at NCSU Libraries

Aisha Harvey, Head, Collection Development at Duke University Libraries

Luke Swindler, Coordinator of General Collections at UNC Libraries

Is the MLS still relevant for academic library positions? ([Video])

Moderator:
Jean Ferguson, Head, Research Services at Duke University Libraries

Panelists:
Carol Hunter, Associate University Librarian for Collections and Services at UNC Libraries

Greg Raschke, Associate Director for Collections and Scholarly Communication at NCSU Libraries

Molly Tamarkin, Associate University Librarian for Information Technology at Duke University Libraries

Poster Presentations:

The use of Serial Solutions' Summon™ in information literacy instruction
Amanda Foster, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Gauging academic e-book trends and preferences at UNC-Chapel Hill
Suchi Mohanty, Libby Chenault & Stephen Brooks, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chat transcripts: A goldmine of the untapped
Amy Chadwell & Kathy Shields, High Point University

Close encounters of the frosh kind: Coordinating freshman English assignments in the archives
Erin Lawrimore, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Student preference and satisfaction with online library instruction: A five year study
Lara Handler, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

An experimental study of student use of and engagement with an online library tutorial
Sarah Bankston, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

An examination of librarian attitudes towards teaching citations
Diana Shull, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Fair use and digital promotion of the UNCG Cello Music Collection
Jacey Kepich, Department of Library and Information Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Instruction and assessment in special collections: an exploratory study of student, staff, and faculty perceptions
Jennifer Crye, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

To promote the Forum, messages were sent to the same lists and contacts as those mentioned for the call for posters. The Chair also gave a brief reminder at the All Staff Meeting on the 15th of May.

Whole Foods Chapel Hill catered the event. They provided plates, utensils, and napkins. The closet in the Pleasants Family Room supplied the tables, and some tablecloths; we also used the tablecloths, trays and extra utensils from the cabinets of the Wilson lobby.

Attendee response to the refreshments was positive.

We provided parking for panelists. We reserved five spaces in three locations:

1 space at the back of Davis Library (free)
2 spaces at the back of Wilson Library (free visitor spaces, not guaranteed)
2 spaces in the Morehead Planetarium Lot (paid for by LAUNC-CH)

After the event, we requested that poster images be submitted to us for archival purposes. The materials we received have been placed on the LAUNC-CH website.

Feedback

We sent an online survey to the LAUNC-CH listserv. Below is a representative summary of the responses:

- Attendees were very impressed with the quality and diversity of poster topics. Most people noted their appreciation for two separate poster sessions.

- The major suggestion for improving the poster sessions was to select a location that had better lighting. The Committee considered using the Wilson lobby for the poster session, but members from the 2008 Professional Development Committee reported that the limited space was unsuitable for effectively displaying posters.

- The panel sessions were also well received by respondents. People were very enthusiastic about the new format. They also appreciated that the panels were focused on important topics and represented a diverse range of viewpoints.

Recommendations for Future Research Forums:

- We recommend that next year's Committee investigate the benefits of an earlier date for the Research Forum. Some LAUNC-CH members have speculated that an earlier date would lead to greater attendance.

- We received a high number of submissions from SILS students this year, more than in the past several years. We attribute this to individual solicitations to students who were known to the committee members. As a supplement to this strategy, we recommend the practice of sending extra reminders to the SILS listserv regarding the submission deadline so that they will be encouraged to submit proposals.

- If Wilson Library were selected as a future venue for the Forum, we would not recommend holding poster sessions in the Saltarelli room. As an alternative, we would consider using the Pleasants Family Assembly Room.

- Securing a reservation for the Pleasants Family Assembly Room was especially difficult during the month of May. If Wilson is used in the future, we recommend securing a reservation as soon as the incoming Chair is selected.

- We recommend that future Committees approach the School of Information and Library Science (SILS) for continued sponsorship of the Forum. SILS showed a strong interest in supporting this opportunity for recent MSLS graduates to share their master's paper findings.

- Whole Foods did not provide enough crackers/bread slices for the amount and type of food they brought. If a similar menu is selected next year (finger foods, cheeses), consider ordering extra crackers/bread.
- We recommend not dealing with the Morehead Planetarium lot or similar UNC lots next year. Even though we reserved and paid for the spaces well in advance, there was terrible communication between UNC Parking and the lot attendants, resulting in unnecessary hassle for the panelists and extra work for committee members coordinating parking on the day of the Forum. Try reserving all spaces in back of Davis (we were told only one was available, but in fact, there are three spaces available).