

**LC Faculty Subcommittee – December 8, 2011**  
**310 Scott**

**Notes**

1) Augustana Information Literacy Workshop Update (Sophie Bury, November 2011)

- Sophie attended the Augustana Info Lit Workshop at U of Alberta several weeks ago
- Two experts in the area of information lit, Bill Johnston and Sheila Webster, were at the conference and Sophie was able to meet with them to ask them questions about possible strategies for our group
- Suggestions from consultation with Bill Johnston:
  - get a sense from AVP, T&L, where do academic literacies fit in?
  - suggested exploring what the shift to elearning might enable
  - the shift towards experiential education has effected a shift in IL as well; sees opportunity to deepen student learning and greater possibility to embed IL specifically, but it may also be an opportunity to embed greater support of student writing as well
  - suggested proceeding with focus groups first to investigate faculty needs, perceptions; use these to shape possible survey
  - proceed cautiously with a needs assessment/survey; advice: step back – don't do this first; need deeper exploration at this stage.
  - For a survey, employ a qualitative approach to question development : focus on the key concepts of academic literacy and how faculty understand these; how they understand their, and LC, roles; what they see the LC doing with/for them?; what faculty are currently doing to develop these skills in students
  - focus groups or interviews are preferable
  - suggested that LC partners model their roles after educational developers – frame themselves as consultants

2) Discussion re: Faculty Subcommittee projects/goals

5 strategies for the LC Faculty Subcommittee were discussed:

1. A series of Faculty-specific academic literacy workshops for TDGAs in the Winter term.
  - These workshops would look at how academic literacies are addressed in each Faculty. Cherie will organize these and invite one person from the LC to participate at these sessions.
2. A survey of course directors on academic literacies
  - Purpose would be 1) Data gathering: to better understand how course directors perceive the challenges to incorporating academic literacies into their course curriculum; and 2) Advertising: to raise awareness of the role of LC and promote academic literacies
  - Keep to just a few questions (3 or 4?)
  - Open-ended, written response questions, as opposed to Likert scales
  - Will poll subcommittee members for suggestions for questions
  - Could create in Survey Monkey, and send out directly to faculty. Also announcement in

- Yfile. Consider asking Sue Vail for a quote for an announcement in Yfile.
  - Final question in survey could ask respondents if they would be willing to participate in a focus group.
  - Survey to be prefaced by an FAQ sheet on the LC, to include:
    - Self Definition of LC's role;
    - Working Definition of AL;
    - Existing Resources available to instructors and range of services available both to instructors and students;
    - Framing of forthcoming Virtual Commons;
    - Framing of possible forthcoming workshops and/or Institute;
  - Ron suggested piloting the survey and/or focus group work with the General Education Committee
3. Faculty focus groups
- Draw on faculty identified in survey, and other faculty we invite
  - Purpose would be to get better insight and feedback into how course directors understand the AL concept, and the perceived challenges of incorporating academic literacies into the curriculum (at course level and/or program level?)
  - Frame the invitation as a means by which faculty might 'help and assist' LC partners to better meet their, and their students', needs
4. Identifying faculty partners to pilot LC course-integrated approach to support
- Pilot role of LC in supporting integration of academic literacies at the course level. Might involve offering workshops for students, providing support for TAs, etc.
  - Could be used as the basis for developing Institute
5. Develop Institute for faculty on academic literacies in the curriculum
- Ron has submitted Notice of Intent for AIF grant. Full submission must be developed by deadline in Feb.

Discussion on general strategy:

- Timing: some discussion on whether we are prepared to develop and deliver an Institute over the coming year as an AIF project. Would it make more sense to submit this proposal in yr 3 of AIF funding?
- Could begin with the survey and/or focus groups
- Would it be best to do need assessment with faculty (2 & 3) and work with faculty partners (4) in order to inform the development of an Institute?
- Need to start small
- Recognition of the need to highlight the work of the LC through a variety of strategies: 1) Y-File article; 2) Item for Information to ASCP; 3) engaging instructors ( TA through CD) : survey; focus groups; PD workshops/Institute

Actions:

- Mark will send email to LC Faculty Subcommittee members to gather survey questions
- Set up next meeting in January