Welcome to the inaugural Library Research Education Newsletter. This monthly newsletter will highlight research education efforts in the Yale Library that support teaching and learning for students, staff, and faculty. This newsletter will also provide articles on initiatives and practices from other institutions.

Please help us create this newsletter by submitting your research education activities and initiatives to resed-l@mailman.yale.edu. These activities may include the creation of online educational materials such as tutorials and subject guides, workshops or classes, exhibitions, or any other educational outreach you are doing in support of teaching and learning at Yale.

Enjoy!

Personal Librarian Program

The Cushing/Whitney Medical Library (CWML) at the Yale School of Medicine has offered a "Personal Librarian" (PL) program to medical students since 1996. This outreach program pairs a librarian with a student as they matriculate, a relationship that is maintained until graduation. PLs offer a range of individualized assistance - from interpreting library policies and procedures to helping locate materials to assisting with thesis research. A recent survey revealed that students are extremely satisfied with the program and would welcome more contact from their PL. The Personal Librarian program has been replicated at other Medical Libraries in the US. Jan Glover and Judy Spak coordinate the program. More information.

In the fall of 2008, the Personal Librarian Program was adapted for undergraduates in Yale College. 1,320 freshmen were assigned their own librarian - one of 32 professional staff from a variety of departments. Each librarian works with a minimum of 10 students, helping them with research and responding to any questions they have about the Library and its services. In the fall of 2009, each participating librarian will be paired with another group of students.

When the undergraduate declares a major, their YCPL will introduce them to their
Subject Specialist, who will help the students with the work they do in their major. Emily Horning coordinates the YCPL Program. [More information.]

LibGuides and Special Collections

Jesse Vestermark, Kress Fellow in Art Librarianship, has created a LibGuide promoting a lecture series housed in the Haas Arts Library Special Collections. The LibGuide presents audio clips, commentary, images and links highlighting selected artists that have lectured at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, a summer arts. The Skowhegan School has been running since the late 1940s and has hosted and helped produce dozens of art world luminaries including many Yale students and faculty. After experimenting with other Web 2.0 formats, LibGuides proved to be the best vehicle for the project: an easy design interface combining audio, image, and library resource-linking capabilities. With YUL’s push to create and convert library subject guides within LibGuides, the project will ideally serve the dual purpose of promoting a formerly buried resource to the Yale Arts community while also demonstrating a creative use of LibGuides. [View the Skowhegan LibGuide.]

Noteworthy Articles

