Library Instructional Activities Executive Summary 2015-2016

During the 2015-2016 school year, librarians engaged in many activities that contribute to student success. These activities included collaborating with faculty on research skills sessions, teaching credit courses, teaching students one-on-one at the reference desk, and outreach.

Librarians offer presentations to students in courses and other groups. One of the most important instructional activities performed by librarians is teaching class sessions on request by faculty for their students' research assignments. In collaboration with faculty, librarians teach information literacy concepts including how information is created and organized, how to search it, critical thinking, and documenting sources properly. During the 2015-2016 academic year, librarians taught 170 course sessions to 4,139 students. Also the library offers orientations, tours, and workshops to programs such as Summer Bridge, Nursing, MBA, and high school senior groups, as well as thesis research and formatting workshops for graduate students in conjunction with the Center for Excellence in Graduate Education (CEGE). In all, library staff taught 29 orientations/workshops to 540 students. The library also offers a credit-bearing information literacy course, SSCI/MDIS 3005. One librarian taught 3 sections, which had a combined enrollment of 79 students. In total, five librarians and two staff members taught a combined 247 presentations during the 2015-2016 academic year, reaching 4,758 students.

Reference interactions are also important one-on-one teaching and learning opportunities. Reference librarians and staff fielded reference questions at the reference desk, in their offices, and through electronic chat. Many reference sessions are lengthy and in-depth, teaching students how information is created, how authority is evidenced, how the library organizes information, how to use research tools, and how to document use of resources according to discipline standards. From June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016, reference transactions consisted of 11,726 in person and phone transactions at service desks, 48 office consultations, 598 emails, 719 online chats, and 185 instant messaging transactions for a grand total of 13,276 reference transactions.

The library website is an important instructional resource where librarians build curriculum for classes or for faculty and students to serve themselves 24/7. Currently, the library website offers 58 video tutorials and guides. We also have built 122 library research guides for specific courses, for departments, and for general concepts.

Finally, librarians promote library resources in several ways. They visit department meetings, offer research mentoring, and participate in campus events such as Preview Day and the Tech Fair. The library maintains a presence on social media platforms Twitter and Facebook for outreach as well.

TH. Approved by libfac 11/19/2016