VALE Assessment, Evaluation & Statistics Committee

Faculty Club, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Mon. Nov. 25, 2013 from Noon to 2pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Lanzhen Tien

Heather Craven

Lisa Laskaris

Paul Glassman

Dan O'Connor

Mark Thompson

Elizabeth Leonard

Discussion of Statistics:

ACRL Survey data has become less valuable as response has diminished. Dan O'Connor said that in 2010 about 2,000 of the 3,800 academic libraries in the U.S. responded and only 1,000 or so completed all the questions. Paul Glassman agreed to run a comparison of NCES and ACRL questions for us. Mark Thompson can generate a list of NJ Compliant institutions. Note: Go to www.acrlmetrics.org to pay for an obtain a password to the entire data set for ACRL and NCES data going back in time and including the 2012 ACRL stats.

Dan passed out information related from ACRL Libraries (www.acrl.ala.org/value) and article by C. Stewart, *An Overview of ACRLMetrics, Part II: Using NCES and IPEDs Data*.

ACRL Metrics site- dataset- Thompson paid for dataset. Create selected cohorts based on variety of data. $190/yr. separate from IPEDS and NCES. It was noted that NCES data is different from ACRL and not generalizable from one to the other. "apples and oranges" – questions and information is different.

EBooks statistics:

How does leasing/buying of ebooks affect statistics and reporting? Are they reporting at holdings if they are in OPAC? Circulation relative to size v usage relative to size? Can we consolidate reporting- ask VALE Libraries to report in a unified manner? (Scharf) Every ebook view should be considered a circulation

(Thompson). OConnor: Attempted 20 years ago to redefine the concept of use. Conglomerate measure of use- but was rejected.

NJIT's Dean, Richard Sweeney, has conducted calculations of e-book usage in EBL that shows the relationship between the number of titles uploaded to the OPAC and the number of titles that are then used/bought.   They limit the size of e-book collection so they do not run over in expenditures. Sharf will send information.

Public library started valuing use over everything else- and only value reading popular fiction. If you go to use as a measure now cutting off time honored model- support faculty doing certain types of work but not others. Moves like public library- should look at full needs of constituents. Program of "star" libraries.   Such as Avalon Public, which has succeeded with innovations. It obtains $1,350 per capita in funding versus the NJ norm of $56/capita. The key factor in public library funding is "doing something new" and attracting interest and involvement of the community.

Thompson: if we do not support curriculum then we have no support. So survey each area and reach out to each academic area to discuss library snapshot. Suggestion: (from other academic library) Classify all courses and give LOC numbers. Grade CVs of faculty. Try to match to library content. Average amount of cost by x number of circulations= cost use figure, took total and then broke down by percentage to departments and gave collection development percentages to departments.

Possible NJLA presentation- bring Rich McSweeney. Have Mark explain what he has done.

CAO Survey - Leonard explained where we were on the project. This also necessitated an overview of the development of the VALUES group and its inclusion under the AES header. CAO Survey is largely written and ready to go, including promised help from Jeanne Boyle and staff to run it. However, we must await further direction from VALE Exec Council as to timing of launch and then final review of the key elements: survey, interviewees, and process. Executive Committee has asked that the survey be temporarily tabled while the NJEdge – VALE agreement is made firm. Sharf doesn't think survey is needed. The old model doesn't work for anyone, and values are institutionally dependent. Others agreed that this may be so, but Thompson noted that we need to understand the mindset of the decisionmakers. Sharf pointed out that we do not need the survey to get that information. Craven suggested the Fister article's value was that it showed that CAO love libraries but Libraries aren't giving me what I need to make the case to their decision-makers. Thompson asked how we get into the rating scheme of that discussion. Other thoughts: Library never mentioned as part of student engagement and usage doesn't measure impact.

Outcomes measurement

1. What did they learn?
2. What do they know?

International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (ISSOTL) Davida Scarf.

Professional association for Higher Education faculty and their work on improving pedagogy.

View a "teaching & learning" center as the new hub for the library. Other activities, such as database selection and licensing, will become much less demanding in function.

Similar analogy to: someone coming to the desk asking for "a book on …" but we really help them with their research project and all types of resources. In this case someone comes in asking for help with the course management system, when they really need help with total course redesign.   Caldwell College is using the CELT model. Oberlin, many years ago, had reversed the phrase College Library to be "Library College" to indicate the dynamic functions.

International Society for Scholarship of teaching and learning (ISSoTL)- www.issotl.org   library hub of teaching and learning center; self-learning centers. Libraries need to get on the radar by innovating-having a hook.