Multifaceted CPD: Developing A Program to Meet the Diverse Needs of LIS Professionals

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IFLA CPDWL; Satellite Meeting, Oslo, Norway, 2005
Agenda

• UIUC and GSLIS
• Online education
• CPD growth factors
• Holistic CPD
• Approach to planning CPD
• CPD programs and services
• Challenges and opportunities

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Public land-grant institution chartered in 1867
- 1,468 acres - 272 major buildings
- Located in rural area - population 100,000
- 40,360 students - 374,744 alumni
- 1,986 tenure faculty & 7,900 staff
- 140 miles (225 km) south of Chicago
- Total Budget FY2005: $1.318 billion USD
Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS)

- Master of Science (592)
- Doctor of Philosophy (64)
- Certificate of Advanced Study (37)
- Information Technology Minor (30)
- ~800 total students
- 24 tenure faculty

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GSLIS  1893 - present

Leadership in LIS graduate education, practice and service

_We don’t seek to be one thousand percent better at any one thing. We seek to be one percent better at one thousand things._

Jan Carlzon, Former President, Scandinavian Air Systems

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LEEP - GSLIS online option

- MS since 1996
- CAS since 2002
- Community credit since 2003
- Emphasis on communication and collaboration
- Hybrid model: synchronous, asynchronous, and residential components
- New opportunities to reach students, engage in research, and reflect on teaching and learning
Formal Alignment of CPD with Institutional Mission

- Statement of commitment to expanding continuous learning and development by a variety of means

- Creation and filling of CPD director position in August 2002
Increasing alumni demands

• Higher M.S. enrollments = more graduates

• Expectation of something in return for ongoing donations to the school

• Desire to maintain more than a social affiliation with GSLIS
New roles and responsibilities of LIS professionals

• Profession undergoing profound changes
• Increasing need for technological competencies
• Engagement in community development efforts, e.g.
  – iLabs and Saturday Street Academy course “Paseo Boricua Community Librarianship”
Welcome!

The PBCLP is a collaboration between the Puerto Rican Cultural Center in Chicago and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

PRCC Catalog

Puerto Rican Cultural Center Catalog

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Holistic CPD

Quality derives from many parts and evolves into something greater. (p. 92)

- Flexibility to adapt to changes
- Accommodates time constraints, funding limitations, learning styles, changing roles
- Increases accessibility to varied educational opportunities
- Builds community of lifelong learners who will look to GSLIS for CPD

Approach to planning

• Series of surveys
• Discussions with alumni
• Focus groups with Illinois librarians
• Meetings with Illinois state library systems’ CPD directors
• Program evaluations
## Growth in CPD Activities

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Online Discussions

• Invitation to alumni to join specially selected sessions of LEEP classes
  – Enables networking, maintaining ties with faculty and school, keeping up-to-date

• Virtual Alumni CPD Advisory Group
  – Established in February 2005
  – Use LEEP and iVocalize technologies
UI Current LIS Clips

• Electronic current awareness service
• Easy-to-read summaries of the key recent publications in the field on topics of current concern
• Started in February 2002
• Joint venture between GSLIS and UIUC LIS Library
Welcome to UI Current LIS Clips, an electronic current awareness service! Log to Current Clips to help you stay up-to-date with the latest issues in library and information science. This free service offers thoughtful, easy-to-read summaries of the key recent publications in the field, for practicing librarians, information professionals and academics. Each issue focuses on a topic of current concern to the Library and Information community.

UI Current LIS Clips is a joint project of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the Library and Information Science Library, at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. We hope you find Current Clips enjoyable and helpful.

Current Issue

- July 2005 - The Library in the Palm of Your Hand: PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants)

Past Issues

- September 2003 - Marketing Library and Information Services
- April 2003 - Electronic Resources
- February 2003 - Recruiting New Professionals to the Field
One of the most glorious features of the continuing education world ... is the mind boggling variety of things to teach. If you think about it, everyone is a potential student.

P.J. Edelson, Images of Continuing Education

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Workshops and Lectures

• For LIS professionals and outreach with the greater community, e.g.
  – Civic engagement: U.S./Russia Dialogs
  – Book Arts: Bookbinding, The Medieval Book, Suminagashi, Book Collecting, etc.
  – Youth services: Lectures at public libraries

• Variety of formats, locations, and topics
Special Collections Institutes

• One week intensive summer programs
• Offered credit/non-credit in 2003
• Topics
  – History of the Book
  – Special Collections in the Sciences
• Evolution to regular curriculum as summer two-week intensive credit course
Community Credit Program

- Provides access to excess capacity in graduate LIS courses on a non-degree basis
- Open to students possessing at least a baccalaureate
- Attractive option for alumni interested in additional coursework
- Increasing numbers of courses available and students participating
Certificate of Advanced Study

- Post-master’s degree program
- Online option now available
- New technically oriented concentration in digital libraries starting fall 2005
- Recent increase in number of CAS students from the historical average of under 10 to 25 students
Summer 2005 Programs

• Two new international ventures

  – Chinese Academic Librarians Summer Study Program (June 18 – July 9)

  – Soviet Secrets, Russian Revelations Tour to Moscow and St. Petersburg (July 15 – 26)
Chinese Academic Librarians

- Three week program of lectures, workshops and field trips for upper-level/assistant deputy library staff with a focus on leadership
- Topics ranged from information literacy to digital libraries
- 20 participants paid for tuition, airfare, lodging, etc.
Study Tour in Russia

• *Soviet Secrets, Russian Revelations: An Inside View of Information and Access in the New Russia*

• 11-day tour of Russian libraries, archives and museums in Moscow and St. Pete

• Led by Marianna Tax Choldin and Ekaterina Genieva
Challenges- past and future

• Identifying resources to plan, design, promote and conduct CPD
  – Hiring CPD director
  – Linking CPD to outreach and alumni relations
  – Internal marketing to increase awareness and acceptance of CPD as a GSLIS program
More Challenges

• Dynamic nature of the LIS field
  – Holistic CPD model enables flexibility and adaptability to changing LIS roles and needs

• Financial return on investment
  – Self-supporting other than CPD director salary
  – Small gains from programs, but at least not in the red
Challenges bring opportunities

- Increased involvement by alumni in GSLIS activities
- CPD programs offer testing ground for new courses
- Contribution to the LIS profession by providing leadership for lifelong learning
One should not expect anything less from a school which has consistently remained in the vanguard of educational progress.

C. M. White, *The Origins of the American Library School*

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Questions?

Thank you!
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http://uiphotos.ncsa.uiuc.edu

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