

## **FY13 ACRL CoPA Plan for Excellence Implementation Reports**

ACRL Unit Name - Academic Library Services to International Students Interest Group

ACRL Position - IG Convener, 2012-13

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### **Enabling Programs and Services**

#### **1. Education**

The Academic Library Services to International Students Interest Group (ALSIS-IG) hosted a meeting at ALA Midwinter and a panel discussion at ALA Annual. The Midwinter meeting was attended by 26 librarians. The meeting discussion centered on the new ACRL Diversity Standards and how these standards can be used as a tool to foster cultural competency of libraries/librarians and student success of international students. Chair of the ACRL Diversity Committee, Rayette Sterling (Outreach and Inclusion Librarian at Eastern Washington University), along with Martha A. Parker (Librarian In-Residence, University of Arkansas) and Latanya N. Jenkins (Reference Librarian for Government Document & African American History, Temple University), attended the meeting as guests to introduce the ACRL Diversity Standards and to facilitate the discussion. Several discussion points include: (a) Developing cultural sensitivity and awareness is essential to academic libraries/librarians' services to international students, (b) Developing cross-cultural knowledge and skills can enhance library services to international clientele, (c) Libraries shall support the promotion of linguistic diversity; acknowledge the communicative efforts of international non-English speaking learners, and (d) research on diversity is valuable in adding knowledge for academic librarians on diversity issues. At ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago, ALSIS-IG organized a panel of librarians to talk about academic library services and practices in countries outside of those in the United States. International students attending colleges and universities in the U.S. brought with them special skills, background and library experiences in their home countries. The goal of this panel discussion is to help librarians gain understandings of academic library services in other countries and to help inform strategies for serving and reaching out to our international patrons. Panelists included Dr. Jose Antonio Merlo Vega (Director of Library Services at University of Salamanca Libraries, Salamanca, Spain), Sun-Ah Key (Librarian for English Literature & Language, Yonsei University Library, Seoul, Korea), Maxine Schmidt (Head of Sciences & Engineering Library, University of Massachusetts- Amherst) who introduced academic libraries in China and Japan during her sabbatical visits, and Hui-Fen Chang (Humanities & Social Sciences Librarian, Oklahoma State University) who discussed academic libraries in Taiwan.

#### **4. Member engagement**

The ALSIS-IG pertained membership of 117 members. The ALSIS-IG had been used two primary communication tools ALA-Connect and Facebook page to provide members with updates and promoting discussions/programs that IG hosted at ALA Annual and Midwinter. After the 2013 ALA Annual Program in Chicago, there were expressed interests from librarians in participating in the development of ALSIS- IG. ALSIS- IG has a need to reinvigorate the use of IG's list-serv ([acrl-igalsis@ala.org](mailto:acrl-igalsis@ala.org)) to engage IG members and to increase the visibility of ALSIS-IG to interested librarians. The ALSIS-IG recruited Maxine Schmidt, Head of Sciences and Engineering Library, University of Massachusetts –

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Amherst as IG convener 2013-14 and Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Humanities Librarian at Miami University as co-convener 2013-14 (and as convener 2014-15). With the growing interest of services to international students, and of librarians willing to work as part of the leadership, ALSIS-IG will continue to develop programs at future Midwinter and Annual meetings to provide academic librarians/libraries with resources and a forum to discuss trends and issues related to all types of library service to international patrons, including instruction, outreach, reference, collections, and programming.

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ACRL Position - Convener

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**Value of Academic Libraries: Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes.**

### **4. Develop and deliver responsive professional development programs that build the skills and capacity for leadership and local data-informed and evidence-based advocacy.**

Developed and moderated panel discussion of cultural competency and how the ACRL Diversity Standards can be used as a tool to foster cultural competency, and the impact of cultural competent libraries and librarians on international student success (Midwinter Meeting 2013). Developed and moderated panel of international librarians on library services and practices in various countries (Annual Meeting 2013). Both programs included a forum for exchange of ideas among all participants.