Journa: Articles


Provides a summary of the 1991 conference of the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE). Highlights include an evaluation of the doctorate degree; problems with traditional library education; the need for multidisciplinary curriculums; statistics about library science educators; postgraduate internships; and revised standards for accrediting library education programs.


Discussion of the influence of technological developments on social change focuses on the effects of information technology on academic reference librarianship. Highlights include reference skills; electronic resources; microcomputer technology; online catalogs; interaction and communication with users; the need to teach information skills; and possible new educational requirements for librarians. (31 references)


Reports the results of a survey conducted by the British Library Research and Development Department regarding systems librarians' education and qualifications: experience and professional background; professional activities; how they communicate, including the use of journals and electronic mail; the job market; career prospects; and future possibilities. (Contains 16 references.)


A library school dean, a public library director, and a recent graduate working as a public librarian give their reactions to a set of competencies recently developed by the Public Library Association's Education for Public Librarians Committee. Background and future plans for the document are also explained.


Considers librarians' preparation for research university libraries. Topics discussed include the library's role in the research university, including advances in information technology and a knowledge management environment; user-centered librarians; scholarly communication; the concept of a learning society; and the need for a more diverse population in the profession. (Contains 32 references.)


Explores recent developments and future prospects in the area of professional development for special librarians and information service professionals. Formal education and continuing education programs are discussed; activities of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) are described; several case studies are reviewed; and the SLA's graduate education position statement is appended. (Contains 14 references.)


Describes the revision of the master's degree program undertaken by the Universite de Montreal School of Library and Information Studies. The theoretical framework and guiding principles used in the revision; studies of the revision process, including reconstruction, administration, and ongoing evaluation; and an outline of the revised program are presented. (Contains 14 references.)

ERIC Documents

AN: ED313047


The role of academic reference librarians is taking new shape with the continuous development of library technologies. In addition to their traditional bibliographical, academic, and personal competencies, librarians also have to possess technological expertise in order to gain access to automated library processes both for themselves, and for providing individual and group online and CD-ROM instruction. Additionally, because of their daily contact with patrons, librarians can aid in determining user and community needs, thereby helping to establish budget priorities for building library resources and managing staffing. Administrative decisions about automation are also increasingly being made by reference librarians. Continuing education is recommended for all reference librarians to maintain current knowledge of library information and resource issues. It is also suggested that librarians should play a proactive role in request-
ing financial support for continuing education, and that they should strive to keep communication lines open with administrators so that they can be informed and can inform the administrators of new systems, technologies, and programs. (6 references)


This paper identifies issues and potential conflicts in the harmonization of education and training programs for the three information professions, i.e., archives, information science, and librarianship, and notes that these professions have a common bond and purpose as carriers of information and providers of service to their user communities. Topics expanded upon in the paper include: (1) curriculum design and development; (2) core library and information science curriculum; (3) relationship among information science, librarianship, and information studies; (4) informational role of archives; (5) common subjects of interest to the three professions; (6) institutions teaching all three disciplines; (7) the concepts of "trunk" and "satellites"; (8) options or electives in postgraduate programs; and (9) a foundation course in human communication. It is suggested that the teacher, the students, and the course itself are all important contributors to the harmonization process. Appendixes contain a flow chart of information/records management and the curriculum requirements for a master of arts degree in librarianship. (19 references)


This analysis of a research and development program conducted in the Brighton Polytechnic Department of Librarianship between 1975 and 1980 to explore the use of computer-related education in all areas of the librarianship curriculum focuses on the use of computer-based teaching packages integrated into the core curriculum, the nature and content of preliminary course units required to support computer-related core curriculum teaching, the development of a series of objectives for such a program, and the identification of factors influencing success in obtaining these objectives. Problems encountered are discussed, including the need to strike a balance between traditional course content and content reflecting environmental changes, and principles formulated are outlined. Recent advances in technology and the extent of theoretical knowledge and practical expertise now required by professionals are discussed in relation to the findings of this analysis. Seven references are listed.

How to Obtain Materials Cited in this Bibliography:

Journal article citations are from Current Index to Journals in Education. The articles may be obtained from a college, university, or large public library, borrowed through interlibrary loan, or if so indicated, ordered from: UMI Clearinghouse, 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Phone: 1-800-521-0600.

ERIC Documents are announced in Resources in Education. They can be read in full text at any library holding an ERIC microfiche collection. They can also be ordered in paper or microfiche copy from the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS), 7420 Fullerton Road, Suite 110, Springfield, VA 22153-2852. Phone: 1-800-443-ERIC or 703-440-1400. Call for prices and delivery options.

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News from ERIC

New Sun SITE for AskERIC at ERIC/IT

Sun Microsystems, Inc., recently announced its newest Sun SITE server, a collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education and Syracuse University. Located at the upstate New York campus and accessible worldwide via the Internet, the Sun SITE repository will host the AskERIC Virtual Library, the most widely used educational service on the net. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education through its Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) program and developed by the School of Information Studies and School of Education at Syracuse University, AskERIC is a national information system for educators, parents, and anyone interested in education. Last year, AskERIC was chosen as a finalist in the education and academia category for the prestigious Computerworld Smithsonian Awards for innovative use of information technology.

According to Mike Eisenberg, professor of Information Studies and director of AskERIC, “Being a Sun SITE location gives us a tremendous boost. Demand for AskERIC resources has exploded, with over 18,000 direct user contacts a week. With Sun SITE, we can expand the quality and quantity of our holdings to meet the users’ needs. We can also work with Sun and other Sun SITE partners to take advantage of cutting-edge technological development.”

The Sun SITE server system at Syracuse University also provides remote access to educational and general resources throughout the world. And because the information is presented in “hypertext” links, it can be linked to other Sun SITE databases with the click of a mouse button or a simple keystroke. “AskERIC and Sun have been leaders in harnessing the power of the Internet,” said Linda Roberts, Special Adviser of Educational Technology for the Department of Education. “I am delighted that the new Sun SITE will host the AskERIC Virtual Library at Syracuse University. This is an example of partnerships that can truly benefit education. I expect that this project will provide students and teachers with a source of rich materials and exciting learning opportunities.”

To reach the Syracuse Sun SITE, type: http://ericir.sunsite.syr.edu in the URL (uniform resource locator) prompt in a Mosaic tool. Sun Microsystems, Inc., can be accessed by typing http://www.sun.com at the URL prompt in a Mosaic interface.

ERIC/IT Clearinghouse to Provide ERIC Searching through the Internet

In an effort to provide resilient and reliable access to the ERIC database over the Internet, Personal Librarian Software (PLS), Northeast Parallel Architectures Center (NPAC), and ERIC/IT have joined forces. Personal Librarian Software has provided the use of their powerful search engine and, with technical assistance from NPAC, ERIC/IT has developed a Mosaic/Lynx interface for searching the ERIC database. Users with Mosaic capabilities will access a forms application to submit their search request. Non-Mosaic users will telnet to ericir.syr.edu and search through Lynx or search through their own Lynx clients. In addition, the system will support searching through Z39.50 clients. Personal Librarian Software brings unique retrieval capabilities to the project. Using PLS, each search term entered will generate a list of related words. The search is then run on this combined list to produce a weighted list of citations, that is, a list presented in order of their relevance based on the number of occurrences of each of the search terms. For further information, contact the ERIC/IT Clearinghouse or AskERIC@ericir.syr.edu

Two New ERIC Publications

For up-to-date information on the trends, professional developments, research, and resources in the field of educational technology, many professionals turn to “Educational Media and Technology Yearbook” (EMTY). Celebrating its 20th anniversary, EMTY continues to chronicle the development of a relatively new and quickly changing field. Amidst the enormous changes in the field, the goal of this edition remains the same as its predecessors: “to help media professionals see themselves in a changing, expanding field and become better informed about the purposes, activities, and accomplishments of the many organizations with activities relative to the utilization of media.” The information in EMTY offers organized access to current developments in the field. This 350p. yearbook is available for $60.00 from the Clearinghouse.

Applying technology is a priority at Peakview Elementary School. Teachers and students are using technology and telling how they like doing so in “Technology Making a Difference: The Peakview Elementary School Study”, a new monograph published by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information & Technology, Syracuse, New York. The Peakview Elementary School, Aurora, Colorado, is the site of this study that focuses on implementing new technology at the elementary school level. Teachers are collaborating with technology specialists and together they are redesigning curricula to include laserdisc players, modems, high-quality software, and Hyper-Studio multimedia environments. The results include increases in student motivation and achievement.

Brent G. Wilson, Roger Hamilton, James L. Teslow, and Thomas A. Cyr, record candid comments from teachers and students...
about the transition from traditional teaching methods to new technology integration in the classroom. More than 125 figures and tables throughout this 230-page publication display teachers’ and students’ responses to questionnaires. This guide sells for $15

New ERIC Digests

- The Impact of School Library Media Center on Academic Achievement
- Information Literacy for an Information Society
- An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators
  Part I: Information Resources
- An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators
  Part II: Question Answering, Listservs, Discussion Groups
- Libraries and the Internet
- Say “Yes” to Telephone Lines in the Classroom

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