

**LIRT News**

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By the Continuing Education Committee, Janet Sheets, Chair  
Members of LIRT's Continuing Education committee worked all year reading and evaluating journal articles on instruction. Then we met in January of 1998 to discuss 37



offered at UT-Austin includes basic Internet instruction classes, a wide array of electronic library services, hands-on training rooms, and numerous Internet-based resources of high quality and diverse content. An extensive bibliography of works consulted is included. This article describes a comprehensive program of instruction at a large university.

Evans, Beth. "Building Bridges between New York City Public High Schools and a College." *Research Strategies* 15 (Spring 97): 289-99.

A specially funded project between Brooklyn College Library and two high schools provided instruction, a college OPAC terminal at the high schools, and college library access to high school students in selected classes. The organization of the project, its aims, and the methods used are discussed. The article concludes with responses of the students and of the college. A program that crosses type of library makes this article interesting.

Frantz, Paul. "Library Rats: Overcoming Resistance to Libraries." *Research Strategies* 15 (Winter 97): 48- 51.

This article presents an alternative to the orientation tour that focuses on how rats," the new tour emphasizes the variety of useful and enjoyable activities that can be performed in an academic library. The students are shown where the best study areas are, where to read home town newspapers, where to surf the net, and the library is presented as the place to hang out between classes. Although not a research study, this article can inspire and motivate librarians toward immediate improvement in their orientation tours.

Geffert, Bryn, and Robert Bruce. "Whither BI? Assessing Perceptions of Research Skills over an Undergraduate Career." RQ: Careen\_ -17(s )18(6( a))20(ta)Q(r)-6(ch)5 515.18 Tm3(a)-3

Statewide curriculum development for library instruction produced a course that has been offered at ten colleges and universities throughout Utah. Called the Internet Navigator, it is a Web-based one hour credit course focusing more on information literacy and less on mechanics of the Internet. Purposes of the course, a description of the course, discussion of how the course is set up and run are covered.

Kafai, Yasmin, and Marcia J Bates. "Internet Web Searching Instruction in the Elementary Classroom: Building a Foundation for Information Literacy." *School Library Media Quarterly* 25 (Winter 97): 103-111.

This article describes a project between a graduate library/information science/education seminar and a variety of classrooms from first through sixth grade in which the students were taught use of the World Wide Web. Six different class projects, the teaching methodology used in each, as well as the results obtained are succinctly presented. This article is an excellent introduction and inspiration for anyone teaching elementary students about the Internet.

Latrobe, Kathy, and W. Michael Havener. "The Information-Seeking Behavior of High School Honors Students: An Exploratory Study." *Youth Services in Libraries* 10 (Winter 1997): 188-200.

In this study of how teenagers seek information, students were asked about lifestyle, health, and relationship information needs as well as course related research. The students reported that they use not only libraries but peers, parents, television, and government agencies. Although validity requires replication with a more diverse population, the conclusions already provide guideposts for designing library instruction. The enthusiasm demonstrated by students for information relevant to personal needs is a key to maintaining student interest. The central role of people as information providers has implications for both library instruction and library staffing.

Laverty, Corinne Y.C. "Library Instruction on the Web: Inventing Options and Opportunities." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly* 2 (1997): 55-66.

This article describes not how to teach the Web, but how to use the Web to teach. Information is provided on utilizing the Web for desktop publishing, library tutorials, subject pathfinders, and how-to guides. Brief descriptions are given for instructional homepages, the use of the Web to create overheads and the creation of backup systems for instruction when connections fail.

Lipman, Cynthia, and Marcia King-Blandford. "Innovation and Collaboration Brings Forth a New Approach to Bibliographic Instruction-Teach the Teachers." *J*

applications. The changing exhibits at Boston's Computer Museum are used as examples of the change in the prevailing way of approaching teaching about computers.

Vishwanatham, Rama, Walter R. Wilkins, and Thomas Jevic. "The Internet as a Medium for Online Instruction." *College & Research Libraries* 58 (September 1997): 433-444.

In order to reach remote users, an introductory course on the Internet was conducted over the email network of the University of Illinois at Chicago. This article presents the methodology of developing the course, design issues in online instruction, and course content organization, as well as the pre and post-course survey, and the results received.

Warmkessel, Marjorie M. and Joseph M. McCade. "Integrating Information Literacy into the Curriculum." *Reference Services Review* 27 (1999): 1-11.