

In the

news

Welcome to the October 2007 issue of *C&RL News*. This month we return to the theme of diversity with the executive summary of the “Achieving racial and ethnic diversity among academic and research librarians” white paper cited last month in Julie Todaro’s presidential theme article. Teresa Neely and Lorna Peterson provide a solid overview of the issues addressed in the full white paper, as well as food for thought on ways to increase diversity in academic libraries.

One way to gain respect for diversity is working with people from other cultures. “Sister libraries partners” outlines a partnership between libraries in Maryland and Mexico, including how librarians from two institutions learned from each other across cultural differences.

One of the most important roles of academic librarians from all countries and cultures is instruction. “Standards for proficiencies for instruction librarians and coor-

dinators” provides excellent suggestions for maintaining consistent quality in instruction programs, both for library teachers and managers of instruction programs.

A big part of the library instruction process addressed in the standards is partnering with classroom faculty. Keeping knowledgeable on general trends in academia and in the disciplines we serve goes a long way towards building those important relationships. David Murray and Steven Bell give great advice on using faculty Weblogs as a current awareness tool in their article “Exploring the faculty blogoverse.” Make sure to take a look at Steven’s recent “Carnival of the Professoriate” posts on ACRLog as well to learn more about faculty blogs.

Of course don’t ignore the rest of the great articles and columns in this month’s issue, including ways you can get involved with ACRL. Enjoy!

—David Free, Editor-In-Chief
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