Proposal: Event for Indiana Academic Librarians on Threshold Concepts in Information Literacy Instruction

Purpose:
The event is intended to offer an affordable opportunity for Indiana academic librarians to share and learn together about the forthcoming information literacy standards and the impact the standards may have on their teaching. The revised information literacy standards, expected to be introduced at the ALA Conference in June of 2014, will be underpinned by threshold concepts theory. Threshold concepts focus on identifying and helping students to understand troublesome concepts that are gateways to new learning. To work with the newly revised standards, information literacy librarians will need to work with threshold concepts theory. This all-day event will focus on sharing and developing Indiana academic librarians’ knowledge about applying threshold concepts for information literacy instruction in different teaching situations, such as one-time library instruction, working with international students, reference services, etc. at each of our institutions.

Dates:
July 25, 2014

Locations: Prindle Institute for Ethics - DePauw University
One of the sites of the unconference hosted by ALI ILC last year, the Prindle Institute for Ethics offers a retreat-like setting with an auditorium and breakout rooms perfect for actively engaged discussions. There are no rental fees involved in hosting the event at this location.

Planning team and event facilitators:
Andrea Baer, Indiana University
Tiffany Hebb, DePauw University
Lisa Jarell, Ball State
Clarence Maybee, Purdue University

Attendance:
Open to all academic librarians in Indiana who do information literacy instruction; we anticipate approximately 45-60 attendees.

Estimated costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Approximate costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room rentals:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prindle Institute</td>
<td>No cost</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food: $23 per head; 45-60 attendees (Continental breakfast, lunch, water and soft drinks) $1035-$1380
Promotional materials Giveaway item $400
Supplies Easel pads and markers $100
Total: $1535 - $1880

Structure of the Day:

1) Plenary - Overview and practical examples of using threshold concepts for IL instruction
2) Breakout sessions - Applying threshold concepts in various educational settings
3) Lunch
4) Breakout sessions - Applying threshold concepts in various educational settings
5) Plenary - Open discussion
6) Closing

Background information on threshold concepts in information literacy instruction:


**Abstract:** Using the analysis of a survey administered to information literacy practitioners asking about content that is troublesome to the students they teach, the authors propose seven threshold concepts for information literacy.


**Abstract:** This article describes how threshold concepts can inform the revision of ACRL’s Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education.