

**Improving Instruction:
What Librarians Can Learn from the Study of College Teaching**

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How Would You Rate the “Culture of Teaching” in Your Library?

Directions: For each of the statements below, please assign a rating of 0-2 using the following scale:

- 0 = No
- 1 = Sometimes
- 2 = Yes

I Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion

- 1. Teaching experience is listed as a requirement for new positions _____
- 2. Demonstration of teaching skills required as part of the hiring process _____
- 3. Orientation to teaching is available to newly-hired librarians _____
- 4. Mentoring programs available in library include a focus on improving teaching skills _____
- 5. Teaching is specifically recognized and rewarded in professional review processes (e.g., annual review, tenure and promotion) _____

II Administrative Support

- 6. Administrators recognize the importance of teaching responsibilities _____
- 7. Administrators promote instruction as a core library service in public forums and in library/university publications _____
- 8. Administration has supported the development/enhancement of an instruction unit or committee charged with promoting the instruction program or fostering effective teaching within the library _____
- 9. Administration provides support for librarian involvement in instructional improvement activities _____
- 10. Administration has sponsored one or more librarians to attend the ACRL Institute for Information Literacy Immersion program _____

III Community of Practice

- 11. Librarians meet informally on a regular basis to discuss teaching _____
- 12. Librarians take part in campus-wide discussions of teaching (e.g., through a campus teaching center) _____
- 13. Library provides a regular forum for discussion of teaching or the instruction program _____

(over)

14. Library supports an in-house training program aimed at helping librarians improve their work as teachers, discuss new ideas about information literacy instruction, etc. _____

15. Librarians other than designated instruction librarians are involved in the development of instructional improvement programs in the library _____

IV Evaluation of Instructional Effectiveness

16. Evidence of instructional effectiveness is a required component of professional review processes (e.g., annual review) _____

17. Librarians have input into the development of the instructional evaluation processes _____

18. Librarians are interested in promoting an environment conducive to peer review of teaching _____

19. Teaching is evaluated as seriously as are other professional responsibilities (e.g., fund management) _____

Scoring: Add up all of your answers on Questions 1-19 (above) to determine an overall institutional score ranging from 0 – 38.

- ✓ If your institutional score ranged from **30 – 38**, your library exhibits a **strong culture of teaching**.
- ✓ If your institutional score ranged from **25 – 29**, your library exhibits a **developing culture of teaching** (in one or more areas). Where are your strongest points? Where do you need to do work?
- ✓ If your institutional score ranged from **0 – 24**, it would appear that the culture of teaching in your library **needs work**. Can you identify any first steps from the ideas enumerated above?

V Short Answer

20. Does your senior administration foster a culture of teaching in your library using some of the approaches outlined today (or other means)? Write down 2-3 things that your senior administrators have done to help your library and your campus take your teaching seriously? If you can't, write down 2-3 things that they could do to help foster the development or enhancement of a culture of teaching in your library?

Note: Please visit the ACRL Virtual Conference Web site for copies of today's presentation slides. Slides are also available through KU ScholarWorks at <<http://hdl.handle.net/1808/245>>.