*Information Literacy Plan for Milligan College, Tennessee*
**Growing out of The Council of Independent College's "The Transformation of the College Library Workshop," Cleveland, OH, April 12-14, 2007**

**The Context:** Mission Statement: "As a Christian liberal arts college, Milligan College seeks to honor God by educating men and women to be servant-leaders." Milligan College is an undergraduate liberal arts college with a highly structured curriculum. We want to help students learn to learn, and to acquire a commitment for life-long learning.

**General perceptions of our current situation:**
      1) Students are tech- and Internet-savvy. However, this creates an over-confidence that they also know how to find and effectively use needed relevant information. They do not adequately know about the print, electronic, and Internet-based information resources the Library has to offer.
      2) Faculty are not fully aware of the information resources the Library has to offer, especially electronic resources. Faculty may not know how to access and navigate these electronic resources.
      3) Faculty fear that information literacy instruction will cut into their teaching time (i.e., content delivery).
      4) First- and second-year curriculum does not adequately introduce/reinforce information literacy skills. Students may focus on completing the formal requirements of assignments regarding information resources—"The professor says I need one book, one journal article and one reliable website."—without thinking about how these resources assist the research process.
      5) Librarian skill-sets may need upgrading to fully engage a plan for information literacy.

**The Plan:**

| Step | *What* is to be done? | *Who* is involved? | *How* will it be done? | *When* will it be done? |
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| 1 | Add more prominent "Ask a Librarian"-type research assistance link/logo on Library website | Gary D. (Librarian) | Create logo link "button" on Library Welcome page that connects to web form | Summer 2007 |
| 2 | Re-conceptualize PSYC 100 College and Calling to integrate basic IL skills | Gary D. (and other Librarians); Bert A. and Traci S. (PSYC 100 Teachers) | Move beyond current library "orientation". Meet over summer to carefully plan IL instruction to mesh with course objectives/ assignments | Fall 2007 |
| 3 | Explore expanded IL integration in HUMN 101W/202W Humanities Writing | Gary D. (Librarian); Heather H. (Director of Writing); Mark M. (Academic Dean) | Move beyond current library resources/ research orientation. Discuss syllabus rewrite | Summer 2007 |
| 4 | Faculty Retreat | Gary D. (Librarian); Mark M. (Academic Dean); Full Faculty | Raise awareness and promote need for IL (e.g., present a re-conceptualization of the "typical" research paper assignment) | August 2007 |

| 5 | Disciplinary Faculty Workshops | Gary D. (Librarian); Area Chairs; Faculty Enabler (IL "cheerleader") | Raise IL consciousness within disciplines. Schedule over next 1-2 years | 2007-09 |
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| 6 | IL Task Force | Librarian; selected Faculty (appointed by Academic Dean) | Communicate with stakeholders; engage in curricular discussions regarding IL integration; draw up recommendations | 2007-08 |
| 7 | Curricular Discussion | Academic Committee (including Librarian); Full Faculty | Engage curriculum discussions for IL integration based upon Task Force recommendations | 2008 |
| 8 | Implement IL Across the Curriculum | Individual Faculty; Librarians | Every course will include stated IL outcomes | 2008-10 |

**Outcomes:** Beginning immediately in the first year, and extending throughout their college careers (and beyond), our students will be able to effectively find and appropriately evaluate and use relevant print, electronic and Internet-based information resources for academic projects and research.

**Measuring Outcomes:**
  1) Compare quality of research and writing assignments year by year
  2) Conduct exit interviews by major
  3) Evaluate NSSE data

**Will the goals of our information literacy plan help to fulfill Milligan College's mission?**
Yes, because the acquired habits and skills of information literacy will empower our students learning in their college career and throughout the rest of their lives.

05.04.2007