

BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE
Proposal I
Information Fluency Grant to the Associated Colleges of the South

1) Title of the proposed project, workshop, course, program or event

Integrating information fluency standards into the curriculum

2) Names of leaders and contact information

Charlotte Ford, Reference/Government Documents Librarian
Geri Worley, Library Systems Manager
Shane Pitts, Assistant Professor of Psychology
Ben Whorton, Academic Computing Technology Specialist
Birmingham-Southern College

3) Brief abstract of the project

The purpose of this forum will be to reach a consensus on student learning outcomes at the basic abilities level. Faculty will begin by hearing about the concept of information fluency and reviewing the competencies outlined by the Association of College and Research Libraries (*Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*, January 2000). Examples of best practices in several disciplinary areas will be presented. It may be useful to have an ACS "circuit rider" for this portion of the forum. Library and academic computing staff will also discuss ways in which they can assist in integrating information fluency into different areas.

Following this, faculty will break out into divisions to brainstorm and develop a plan for concrete ways in which they can integrate information fluency into their curricula. This will be done in 3 sequential sessions:

- a) idea generation about desired student competencies
- b) discussion and refinement of strategies for achieving desired competencies
- c) departmental level decisions regarding the particular courses in which these strategies will be implemented

Library and IT staff will be in attendance at the breakout sessions to offer their ideas and support.

4) Rationale (why should ACS fund this project and how will it benefit the consortium?)

This forum will provide a practical mechanism for integrating information fluency into the curriculum at Birmingham-Southern College, in ways that are meaningful to the faculty at this institution. It may also provide a model for other schools that are hoping to do the same thing.

5) Preliminary description, including: a) number of days an event or the project will last b) agenda c) strategies for recruiting participants d) target audience

a) This will be a one-day retreat

- b) Agenda:
8:30 am - 10 am Introductory session
10:15 am - 12 pm Breakout by divisions for brainstorming about competencies
12 pm - 1 pm - Lunch
1 pm - 2:15 pm - Breakout by divisions for discussion of strategies
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Discipline coordinators propose concrete plans of action
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm - Plenary session
- c) Strategies for recruiting participants: Division chairs and discipline coordinators, as well as members of the library and IT staff who support information fluency objectives, will be invited and will receive some compensation for their time. Faculty will have the option of inviting a student in their area to accompany them.
- d) Target audience: Discipline coordinators and division chairs of the faculty, and relevant library and IT staff at the College
- 6) Plans for follow-up and evaluation

Evaluations will be filled out at the plenary sessions at the end of the workshop. Discipline coordinators will be contacted individually the following semester to inquire about the extent to which they have been able to integrate information fluency standards into the curriculum in their area.

- 7) Plans for dissemination of results to the rest of ACS and beyond.

Results of this forum will be reported at future meetings of the ACS IF Task Force and will be made available on the web as well.

- 8) Preferred time of year for event: weekend during the academic year? summer? -- be as specific as you can be (if using ACS Tech Center facilities, note that limited dates are available)

End of Spring Semester 2002