

Health Sciences Interest Group

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Continuous Learning

1. Expand ACRL's alignment of programs and other learning opportunities based on data, member needs, and strategic priorities.

The health sciences interest group is very new and as such has not had an opportunity to provide formal programming or discussions until this year at ALA 2010. At our meeting we plan on devoting time to discussing a topic of interest to members that attend the meeting. In addition, this year we submitted two proposals on behalf of the interest group. One is for an ACRL program at ALA 2011. For this proposal, we surveyed members to help us decide a topic of interest. Survey results were discussed with the members at ALA Midwinter 2010 where a topic was selected for the program. The second is a proposal to the ACRL 2011 conference.

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2. Increase the accessibility of learning opportunities to meet the diverse needs of members by relying on research and best practices for design, delivery, and accessibility.

Our group has started thinking about how to provide virtual programming. We plan on pursuing initial discussions with the National Library of Medicine for a web-based program about how to use some of the lesser known NLM resources.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Leadership

1. Develop leadership opportunities for ACRL members and increase professional development offerings on leadership.

As a new interest group, the HSIG has many opportunities for new members to become leaders. Each year, we elect a Vice-Chair. We also have two of task forces for members to contribute to if they would like to be more involved.

Strategic Area: The Profession

Goal Area: Leadership

4. Increase ACRL's efforts to support recruitment of new and diverse talent to academic and research librarianship.

Our interest group has over 200 members within less than two years of being formed. This illustrates that health sciences librarianship is a vibrant career. Librarians working in academic health sciences libraries have unique needs and perspectives that reflect the diverse nature of these types of libraries. An interest group that addresses these needs is clearly something that ACRL members desire.

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Membership

1. Expand the appeal of ACRL membership among current members with a special focus on those new to the profession and early in their careers.

As a focused interest group, we have the opportunity to engage new ACRL members as well as members that have been active in ACRL in new ways. We have opportunities for our members to become involved in leadership (i.e. Vice-Chair or Advisory group) or learn more about organizing programming at ALA and ACRL conferences (programming/events group).

Strategic Area: The Association

Goal Area: Membership

4. Increase the appeal of ACRL membership to broader communities.

The health sciences interest group clearly appeals to a sector of ACRL members that may not be served by other ACRL sections or interest groups.