ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.

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Six point-of-use audiovisual programs were developed by librarians as part of a library instruction program in Alexander Library at Rutgers University to illustrate the basic skills needed in using the library's print collections in the social sciences and humanities. Topics for the 16mm filmstrip cartridges were (1) Tour of Alexander Library; (2) Using the Periodical Indexes; (3) Using Psychological Abstracts; (4) How to Use the Card Catalog; (5) Government Publications in Alexander Library; and (6) Using Social Sciences Citation Index. The development process is described, including the production of software—selection of topics, scripts, photography, taping, and laboratory conversion of 35mm slides/tapes to filmstrip cartridges; selection and modification of equipment; and user evaluation of the programs. Users over the summer of 1980 indicated that, while they were pleased with the programs, an unexpectedly high number of them would prefer printed instructions, and they would be interested in programs on non-book materials, including microforms. User evaluation data are reported, and a copy of the questionnaire is appended.

Instructing the Academic Library User: Historical Background and Utilization of Audiovisual Presentations. By Marilyn P. Whitmore. 1979. 20p. ED 202 458. MF—$0.83; PC—$1.82

A brief sketch of the trend in bibliographic instruction from the thirties through the seventies introduces this review of the literature on applications of instructional media in programs for academic library users. Formats discussed include television, programmed instruction, multimedia presentations, and slide/tape presentations. The slide/tape program is seen to be the most popular approach, and it is discussed in more detail, including advantages, disadvantages, production time, length of presentations, evaluation, and duplication of efforts. A list of 70 references is provided.


These proceedings of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) meeting on the education of research library personnel contain the following papers: “The Conant Report and Its Implications for Academic and Research Libraries,” by Ralph W. Conant; “Library Education—State-of-the-Art,” by Robert O. Steuart; “Professional Education and Training—A New CLR Program,” by Warren J. Haas; and “Library Education—The Director's Point of View,” by Margot B. McBurney. Discussion and comments from the floor follow the papers. Details of the business meeting are provided, and appendices include various ARL committee reports and membership data.


Intended to provide recommendations that will permit Wisconsin libraries to make more effective use of current automated systems, select the most appropriate new systems, and provide a basis for statewide library automation planning, this report describes the current and future use of automation technology in that state’s libraries. Its four major sections discuss the following: (1) highlights of the report and the report audience; (2) the existing automation environment in Wisconsin, online catalogs, and a statewide database; (3) current major commercial and not-for-profit automated services and planned extensions to these services, including circulation services, cataloging systems, acquisitions systems, serials systems, and search services; and (4) a five-year plan defining the specific actions, projects, committees, and task teams needed to carry out the report recommendations.
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