

ALA 2008 Poster Session Application

Title: Library Residency Working Group: Collaborating for Success

Abstract (200 words or less):

Library residency programs are increasingly becoming highly sought after professional work experiences for new librarians. With the number of programs growing almost yearly, it is more important than ever that information on programs be easily accessible, whether from the perspective of an interested participant or an institution endeavoring to begin a program. Building on a collaborative network of former and current library residents, residency program coordinators, library deans, administrators, diversity officers, and human resources professionals, the Library Residency Working Group (LRWG) will provide a comprehensive initiative for residency program collaboration through the following efforts:

- Centralizing information on residency program availability and serving as an information clearinghouse and resource for institutions planning, managing, or researching residency programs;
- Maintaining a directory of past and present program participants in order to facilitate longitudinal evidence provision for assessment;
- Production of research projects related to residency programs; and
- Development of supplemental curricular content to develop and expand the skill areas of current residents.

Session attendees will understand the purpose of the Group's initiatives, be updated on the Group's research projects, be invited to join the Group, and be informed of upcoming plans for the National Diversity in Libraries' post-conference in October 2008.

Keywords: Residency Programs; collaboration; working group, Libraries