Library Committee Report
September 2012

The Writing Program’s Library Committee began its work during the 2010-11 school year, its membership including Robin King, Annalisa Rava, Veronica Flanagan, Robin Somers, Mark Baker. Our initial (and ongoing) projects evolved from the three pillars central to the Committee’s charge:

1. Develop a survey for Writing Program faculty to relay to the library our needs, concerns, thoughts regarding library instruction;

2. Further the Writing Program’s internal annotated bibliography of library materials (books, journals) relevant to the work on Writing Program faculty;

3. Work with reference librarians to design a 2-part workshop series whereby Writing Program faculty could gain greater insight into library databases, advanced searching methods, keyword searching.

During the 2010-11 school year the Committee met a handful of times with Reference and Instructional Librarian Annette Marines as well as on its own without Annette. The Committee wrote initial survey questions for Writing Program faculty to collect thinking about library workshops; after consultation with librarians, we all decided the nature of the first survey would not serve librarians well. At this time given pending changes to library service and library instruction, we are rewriting the survey so as to collect the most useful information from Writing Program faculty that can be used by librarians and the Writing Program alike.

The Committee continues its work in building and revising the annotated bibliography--this will be made available spring quarter 2013.

Our big project for this year (finally) given the conclusion of the Writing Program’s SOE search will be one or two meetings/workshops with librarians (Annette Marines or another instructional librarian). We hope to cover two prime issues this winter/spring during the workshop:

1. Training for faculty. Though there has been debate as to what topics and areas would be most useful for Writing Program faculty, the plan is to offer a 70 minute workshop and discussion over library databases, advanced searching methods, assisting students to refine their topics.
2. Library instruction. As the UCSC Library wrestles with its own series of budget cuts, the library will be revising its method of delivering instruction to first year students. The Committee will work with a liaison from the library this year to impart this information to our colleagues, and to plan a session whereby faculty can plan for the changes and how these changes will affect our curriculum.

The Committee will have one general meeting so that its members can bring other issues, ideas, suggestions to the table regarding other Writing Program and Library matters.