FACRL Narrative Description of Activities

The Florida Association of College and Research Libraries (FACRL) serves as the Florida state chapter of the (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). All divisions of ALA align with their mission which is “to provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.”

FACRL strives to provide opportunities for professional development and networking while promoting the exchange of ideas and information.  Our association is open to librarians from all types of academic libraries in Florida, including public and private colleges and universities, as well as specialized research libraries.

FACRL’s professional and outreach activities provide an environment for new and experienced librarians to:

* participate and collaborate through committee opportunities
* engage colleagues through presentations and other approaches at our annual conference on trends in the profession and state level topics
* promote membership at various professional events, statewide and nationally
* build leadership skills
* hosting e-Learning professional development events and webinars for local attendees offered through ACRL

Below is a description of some of the staple activities FACRL has offered over the years:

**FACRL sponsored events in support of the Florida Library Association’s (FLA) Annual Conference**

FACRL is dedicated to promoting the academic librarianship locally and statewide. In support of FLA’s Annual Conference, FACRL sponsors a coffee break which provides an opportunity to share information and encourage membership to the association. FACRL also participates professionally in the FLA Conference through a presentation tied to the theme. This year’s panel presentation topic was “*Telling our story: Methods for improving academic impact at the administrative level*”.

**FACRL Annual Fall Program**

Each Fall, FACRL hosts a conference centered on a particular theme. Usually held in October at varying locations, the conference provides an excellent opportunity to learn what other colleagues are doing around the state and sharing best practices within the profession. Some of our previous themes included:

* *Tackling the textbook problem: Leveraging library resources and OERs to reduce costs*
* *Prove It! Demonstrating effectiveness with data*
* *Fake news and digital literacy: The academic library’s role in shaping digital citizenship*

As part of the conference, FACRL also sponsors three students currently enrolled in an ALA accredited library school pursuing either the MLIS or PhD. Priority will be given to students currently enrolled in an ALA accredited library school located in Florida or Florida residents enrolled in an ALA accredited program elsewhere. This funding helps to defray the costs of attending conference.

**Collaborative Opportunities with ACRL to host e-learning events and webcasts**

FACRL partners regularly with ACRL to host live e-learning webcasts at regional locations throughout the state. Through the e-learning program, attendees can enhance their skills through professional development events that are focused on practical, tangible topics, while meeting the demands of schedule and budget constraints.