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SLA 2005 Poster Session

Understanding the Research
and Teaching Needs of
Physics Faculty

1

Audit a class:

“Physics in the News” students had to write a paper or do an oral presentation on a physics topic. By auditing the class, I was able to better understand the needs of both faculty and students.

2

Show interest:

Attend department colloquia. I arranged to have the library and the physics department jointly sponsor a physics colloquium by the editor in chief for the American Physical Society. This increased our dialog about scholarly communication.

3

Monitor listservs in "their" field:

PHYS-L is a list dedicated to physics and the teaching of physics with about 700 members from over 35 countries, the majority of whom are physics educators. I occasionally post a suggestion.

4

Keep abreast of faculty research:

Attend sessions given by faculty for the purpose attracting new students to their research group. I always learn a lot about research in which faculty are currently involved.

5

Selective dissemination of information:

Sending items related to faculty research or teaching is a sure way to let faculty know that you are aware of and interested in their activities. For example, any interesting web sites or articles about music or sound I send along to faculty who teach "Physics of Music" or "Science of Sound" classes.

6

Cultivate graduate students:

Our next generation of faculty also appreciate attention. I send links of interest to graduate students to their web master. Examples include information about fellowships, employment information, and the link to the AIP Style guide.

7

Attend department social events:

By attending the end of the year picnic, I got involved in creating curriculum for an intensive writing course in critical thinking!

8

Join one of “their” organizations:

I joined the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) and have been presenting at their meetings for several years. Away from day to day work pressures, faculty are happy to discuss research and teaching needs.

9

Volunteer for committee work in one of “their” organizations:

I am serving on the Committee on Graduate Education in Physics. As a member of the committee I was able to provide input to the Task Force on Graduate Education in Physics.

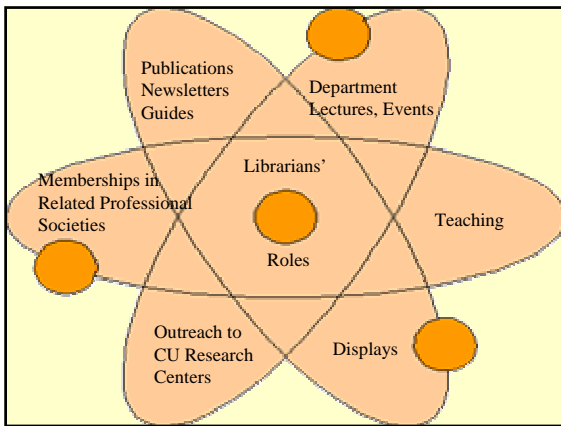
10

Submit articles to “their” publications:

I have been giving a tutorial for several years called “Mining the Internet”. I submitted a written version to Physics Education and the article appeared in the January, 2005 issue.

Be persistent:







Super Librarian image:
Courtesy of New Jersey Libraries <http://www.njlibraries>
