

Title: Continuing Education/Professional Development for Information Literacy Teachers at the Helsinki University Library

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At the Helsinki University Library, we have had an organizational change in the beginning of the year 2010: now we have one library functioning on four campuses, and a large unit for centralized services. On every campus library we have one coordinator for information literacy (IL) and user education (UE) teaching. These coordinators meet regularly in a working group to discuss subjects and decide common guidelines, and other common issues.

Because on the campuses there is more need for the UE and IL teaching, and IL teaching has also become more demanding, we want to share our knowledge and best practices within the big group of UE and IL teachers from all campus libraries. At the beginning of 2009, we established a journal club/study circle for the UE & IL issues. For each meeting, we have a theme based on a couple of articles or other material which we discuss and evaluate how we could apply it in our work. In 2009, we met five times. The themes included e.g. progressive inquiry, evaluating teaching, and sharing teaching material. We have also established an open access wiki for sharing articles and other material, discussion notes, and for the further comments.

In my presentation, I want to share our experiences about this kind of professional development and cooperation. I am also gathering evaluation and feedback from my IL and UE teacher colleagues and I am going to share the results and new ideas at the conference.