Climbing the Ladder of Success

for

Library Faculty

in

The City University of New York

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  Lisa Finder and Scott Johnston
LACUNY Professional Development Committee (2003-2004)

Lisa Finder (Hunter College) & Scott Johnston (Graduate Center)
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The cover was prepared by Barbara Cardillo. Wayne Halliday and Linda Roccoss advised in the production. Monica Berger prepared the electronic version of this publication and loaded it to the Professional Development Committee’s web site at: http://lacuny.cuny.edu/committees/pdcom.html Janet Butler Munch edited the publication.
Over fifty CUNY library faculty turned out on a snowy March day for the Climbing the Ladder of Success program sponsored by LACUNY’s Professional Development Committee. The papers that follow are based on the talks delivered.

Professor Larry E. Sullivan gave the opening panel presentation, drawing on his experience as chief librarian at two CUNY libraries (Lehman and John Jay), as an associate dean, and as the only library faculty member teaching in the CUNY doctoral program. Speaking of the realities of the faculty status model, he stressed the important role that publication and scholarship play in the acceptance of librarians as faculty peers.

Professor Shoshana Kaufmann spoke about mentoring of librarians, drawing on the Queens College Library experience. In addition to its program of advising and guiding library faculty on the paths to tenure, promotion and professional growth, Queens plays an important role in the socialization of library science students to the profession.

Professor Sharon Swacker, chair of the PSC’s Professional Status Committee and a long time advocate for CUNY library faculty, explained the contractual leave benefits available to librarians; and encouraged all to avail themselves of those opportunities to help secure tenure and advance professionally.

Professor Sandra Roff, who served as Chair of the Library Panel of the PSC-CUNY Research Awards, spoke of her observations about librarians submitting applications, her own experiences with grants, and the role that grants can play in one’s career path and research agenda.

Professor Lucinda Zoe, drew on her experiences at two CUNY colleges (Baruch; and Hostos as chief librarian) and as a former LACUNY president, to discuss: the requirements of service for CUNY librarians; how this requirement can be fulfilled; and benefits can accrue to the individual, their library, their institution, the university and the profession through service.

In addition to the papers delivered, Professors Lisa Finder and Scott Johnston, co-chairs of the program, prepared an annotated bibliography of sources helpful in the professional development of librarians. This bibliography also cites examples of works written by CUNY librarians and published in recent years.

Prof. Janet Butler Munch
Program Coordinator and Editor