## Special Questions for the External Reviewers

# **Information Literacy**

- 1.Our information literacy options include introductory Tutorial sessions, disciplinary sessions integrated with credit courses, credit courses specifically on information literacy, one-on-one consultations (Library Lab), and reference services (virtual and in-person). Based on our report and your observations and interviews, do we seem to be devoting too much or too little time to one or more of these options? We are especially interested in the role walk-up reference (scheduled hours at the reference desk) should play in our overall information literacy program. Should we consider reducing or expanding those scheduled hours?
- 2. Do you think that it is a good use of our time to offer a librarian-taught (or team-taught) 4-credit course on an "advanced information literacy" topic? Currently we are teaching "Ways of Knowing: How Disciplines Construct Knowledge" as a special-topics course, but it is not a regular offering. We also teach, each semester, a 2-credit course "Introduction to Library Research." See our discussion on p. 5 of the report under "Information Literacy."
- 3. At your libraries, how do you assess the readiness of a department or program to collaborate with you in the integration of information literacy instruction into course offerings, especially at the upper-division levels?
- 4. Do you have experience with a peer-reference model in which student staff are trained to provide first-line reference services? If so, how successful has it been? Do you recommend it as a complement to traditional librarian-staffed reference service?

### **Collections and Collection Development**

5. Media collections at Grinnell, as elsewhere, are an increasingly important resource for teaching and student use. Our report gives relatively little attention to media, and projects that over the next 3-5 years portable formats like CDs and DVDs will continue to be the dominant method for delivering audio and visual content in academic settings. Do we appear to be giving enough attention to media content in our services and our planning? Do these projections regarding the near-term dominance of CD and DVD formats seem right to you, or should we be moving more aggressively toward "access-only" models for video and music (e.g., subscription-based streaming services)?

### **Digital Initiatives**

6. Given the major investment of time, money, and other resources that digital initiatives represent (whether digitization of local collections or institutional repositories for work created by students, faculty, or staff), how can we be sure that we are focusing our efforts in this area in the most productive ways? Based on what you see at Grinnell and what you know about national trends, do you believe we should continue, expand, or reduce these efforts here?

### **Partnerships and Collaboration**

7. Given the national trends you see in publishing, faculty and student reading behavior, and library consortia development, what is the relative importance of Grinnell leading the development of a <u>regional</u> resource-sharing consortium?

## **Staffing and Organization**

- 8. After reviewing our self study and interviewing people inside and outside of the library, do you believe that we have assigned our staff in the right proportions to the functions we perform, or would you recommend different emphases in staff assignments? Similarly, do you believe that our organizational structure aligns functions and people effectively, or would you recommend different reporting relationships and functional alignments?
- 9. Do you have any comments on the assignment of library faculty to the Science Division?

#### Assessment

- 10. Beyond what we are already doing (as described in the Assessment section and elsewhere in our report), what are additional effective ways for us to listen to our campus constituencies?
- 11. Should we consider repeating the LibQUAL survey? Would you recommend an alternative survey instrument?

#### Overall

12. The report represents a selection of topics and initiatives: we could have focused on other issues in addition or instead. Is there anything you are surprised not to find addressed in the report?