Research Incentive Fund Report

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In 2012, the InULA Research Incentive Fund made it possible for me to accomplish two very important related tasks:

- **February:** Indiana University was one of five institutions nationwide selected to participate in the Rubric Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (RAILS) project. RAILS is based at Syracuse University and led by Dr. Megan Oakleaf. The three-year project seeks to measure information literacy skills of college students and is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. As project leader for IU, I was responsible for (among other things) making arrangements for room and food for subjects. While RAILS provides a small budget for these things, it was not enough to cover all the expenses. InULA provided me with the additional funding, and the study subjects were able to have a relaxing meal in the middle of a very taxing day.

- **October:** Throughout the year, I have worked to develop a model for program-wide information literacy integration that reaches all students in a program and that assesses their performance and the program's overall effectiveness in teaching these skills. The assessment portion of the model is based on the RAILS project mentioned above. To make a model like this successful, I have needed to meet with and consult with many people in the library assessment arena. InULA's support enabled me to attend the Association of Research Libraries Assessment Conference in October. This conference put me in contact with some of the nation's most knowledgeable people in information literacy assessment, and their expertise and feedback were critical at this crucial stage of project development.

I am thankful for the continued financial support InULA has provided me. It has been essential to my progress in the profession.