CUARL K-12 Education Portal Committee
April 2012 Report

Members: Liaison: Dean Carolyn Allen (UAF)
Elizabeth C. McKee (UAF) and Heather L. Smith (UAMS), Co-Chairs
Paula Reaves (UAM) Georgette Wiley (UAPB) new member 11/11-
Carolyn Filippelli (UAFS) new member, 11/11- Dr. Marta Collier (UAFS), advisory member
Carol Macheak (UALR) new member, 11/11-

Original Charge:
The U of Arkansas Educational Portal Task Force was charged on October 11, 2006, with “the
mission of developing a shared Web site dedicated to providing information and tools to teachers
K through 12 drawing from materials provided by the various colleges, departments, and
programs of the University of Arkansas research universities.” The committee was further
directed to:

- Identify programs and resources at each institution, wherever curriculum is developed
- Identify opportunities for partnerships with K-12 groups
- Determine how a portal should be established and monitored
- Develop a promotional plan.

Report:
The CUARL K-12 Educational Portal is available at http:libinfo.uark.edu/cuarl/k12portal/ . It
has grown from some 40 sites in the summer of 2008 to 118 sites this spring. All of the sites
have been reviewed and updated since 2011, with 58 of them as recently updated as spring of
2012. As reported in July 2011 report the site descriptions and links in the portal have largely
been created by UAF. We have sought to include content from the other CUARL institutions, but
we believe that we have not identified all the education outreach being done at other system
campuses and hope for input from the other committee members.

Beth Juhl, UAF Web services librarian, has provided statistics for the K-12 portal:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Page Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2008 – June 2009</td>
<td>11,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2009 – June 2010</td>
<td>6,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2010 – June 2011</td>
<td>3,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2011 – March 2012</td>
<td>3,459</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is important to note that only UAM, UAMS, and UAF currently offer direct links to the K-12
Education Portal. Thus, awareness of the portal by educators comes mostly from researchers
using UA Fayetteville’s site. Using the “linkto:” search in Google we found little awareness of
this site.

The portal highlights the work higher education is doing for K-12 education and serves as
promotion for our institutions, as well as fulfilling academia’s efforts to contribute to basic
education in the state. In its current format it is time consuming to maintain.
Suggestions for future direction:
The committee co-chairs would like to suggest that the Directors consider the use of Delicious as a substitute for maintaining the portal in its current format, in light of the other education Web sites that are now available in the state. WE have taken the descriptions used in our current portal and placed some of them in Delicious as an example. This would allow broader participation in developing and publicizing the Arkansas content we currently focus on.

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