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News Release

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Yan He

IU Kokomo librarian leads campus information literacy program

KOKOMO, Ind. — In a world where people are surrounded by sources of information, the ability to find information, evaluate it, and use it correctly is crucial.

Indiana University Kokomo will have new ways to educate students, faculty, and staff in information literacy, as one of its librarians recently attended a prestigious immersion program.

Yan He, information literacy librarian, was one of 100 participants in the Association of College and Research Libraries information literacy immersion program, at Champlain College, Burlington, Vt.

Polly Boruff-Jones, dean of the Library, said the immersion program only accepts about 10 percent of applicants.

“This is a very competitive program, and I am proud of Yan for being accepted,” she said. “This program allows her to take our existing activities and build a framework for a full-fledged information literacy program.”

Boruff-Jones is an alumna of the immersion program.

He was thankful to receive IU’s Herbert and Virginia White Professional Development Award to fund her attendance. The award is given annually to fund professional development for IU library staff. She was one of two recipients.

He defined information literacy as ability to identify an information need, know where to find the information, be able to evaluate a source’s credibility, and be able to use it ethically, without plagiarizing.

“It takes some thought to articulate what you need, and to dig deeper into the resources available,” she said. “It can be hard to identify reliable, high quality scholarly publications. It is our goal to educate our campus to have these vital skills.”

The immersion program includes a teaching track and a program track. He was selected for the program track, which focuses on developing, integrating, and managing information literacy programs.

Indiana University Kokomo serves north central Indiana.

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