

# Faculty Status and Librarians

*BAISL supports faculty status for librarians. This classification is warranted for librarians who have the equivalent educational background as other faculty members and who design and implement an instructional curriculum through their collaboration with faculty colleagues.*

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a professional group within the American Library Association, also supports the inclusion, as instructional staff, of certified school library media specialists:

*“School library media centers are classrooms in which school library media specialists teach and students and teachers learn. In school library media centers, students read, utilize print, non-print, and technology resources, and learn to evaluate and use information for projects and reports efficiently, effectively, and ethically, with the goal of developing lifelong learning and literacy skills and strategies. In school library media programs, classroom teachers and school library media specialists collaborate for instruction and support the development of each other's teaching skills. Multiple research studies, more than 60 since 1965, have affirmed that there is a clear link between school library media programs staffed by state-certified school library media specialists and increased student achievement.*

*School library media specialists are recognized by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) as teachers whose teaching can be measured to meet standards for professional teaching excellence and by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) as teachers who are critically important for student achievement.”<sup>1</sup>*

**BAISL strongly supports faculty designation for independent school librarians. Such a designation acknowledges the essential partnership and collaboration of librarians and teachers who train students in information literacy - invaluable learning and research skills.**

*Submitted by the BAISL Position Papers Committee  
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Approved by BAISL at the Spring Meeting 2007*

<sup>1</sup>Position Statement on Instructional Classification from ALA American Association of School Librarians. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/positionstatements/instclass.htm>]