

Wang, S.R. (2008). *Aligning pre-service school library media specialists' self-assessments with AASL standards* (Doctoral dissertation, Towson University, 2008).

Dr. S. Raymond Wang

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#### Dissertation Abstract

This dissertation research investigated the quality of school library media specialist education by examining students' perceptions of the knowledge and skills that they acquired through their school library media specialist education programs, as they related to the professional guidelines and the current national standards. The dissertation study invited graduate students currently enrolled in two school library media specialist education programs to self-evaluate their acquired knowledge and skills, in preparation to meet the professional competencies set forth by the national accreditation agencies. This goal was accomplished through the development of a self-assessment tool based on *the AASL Standards for Initial Programs for School Library Media Specialist Preparation*.

The validity of the research instrument was established by a panel of experts currently working in the field of school library media education. The reliability of the instrument was established by administering the assessment instrument to a sample of subjects currently enrolled in school library media specialist education. Using the established research instrument, this dissertation study surveyed current students and looked at how they perceived their academic preparation, in order to meet the AASL competency standards in their present stage of study in school library media specialist education. Results indicated that the survey instrument was effective in revealing how students' perceptions changed, as they completed more course work in their school library media specialist program. Several recommendations for future research and instructional improvement were also made.