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HIP (High Impact Practice) Librarianship in the Costa Rican Cloud Forest

Laurie Kutner

University of Vermont, Laurie.Kutner@uvm.edu

Adrienne Canino

University of Rochester, acanino@library.rochester.edu

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<https://scholarcommons.scu.edu/libraries-and-service-learning/2018/schedule/2>

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Laurie Kutner

Information and Instruction Librarian

University of Vermont

laurie.kutner@uvm.edu

Adrienne Canino

Science Librarian

University of Rochester

acanino@library.rochester.edu



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Questions to consider

How can we as a profession more actively contribute to student experiential learning in international settings?

How can we have our own high impact learning experiences and practices that then become pivotal in our development as professionals?





Monteverde Institute

Study Education Abroad
Short & Long term courses
that change the way you think

Research Applied Research
that impacts & informs

Community Homestay
& Community Engagement
that change the way you live



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The Three Cornerstones of Our Mission

**High-impact practice setting + librarian skills = Meaningful
change and experience → Builds upon itself**



What are high impact practices?

- First year seminars
- Common intellectual experiences
- Learning communities
- Writing intensive courses
- Collaborative assignments
- Undergraduate research
- Diversity/ global learning
- Service learning
- Internships
- Capstone learning

Kuh, G. D. (2008). *High impact educational practices: What they are, who has access to them, and why they matter*. Washington, DC: American Association of Colleges and Universities.





Background



- 2007 – Initial research on information needs and challenges of MV research community. Frustrated local scientists who had no access to proprietary scholarly journals / local research exported and inaccessible
- 10+ years of work in MV on increasing access to locally produced research
- From internships to critical information literacy and more



Internships and impacts

- Digital libraries
 - Sustainable Futures
 - Community Health
 - Tropical Ecology
- MV Cloud Forest Preserve collection
- Community outreach





Something from nothing ...

- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Experimentation
- Limited to no resources
- Internet, bandwidth challenges
- Variety of emotions
- Different cultural setting

And HIP experience for all





HIP instruction opportunities

- 2017/2018: “*Equity issues in scholarly access and production: A view from Latin America*”
- “**Critical information literacy** ... looks at the cultural, social and economic structures that underlie all of information production and dissemination.”

Is the production of scholarship and access to information equitable across the world?

- Who benefits?
- Who loses?
- Why should we care?

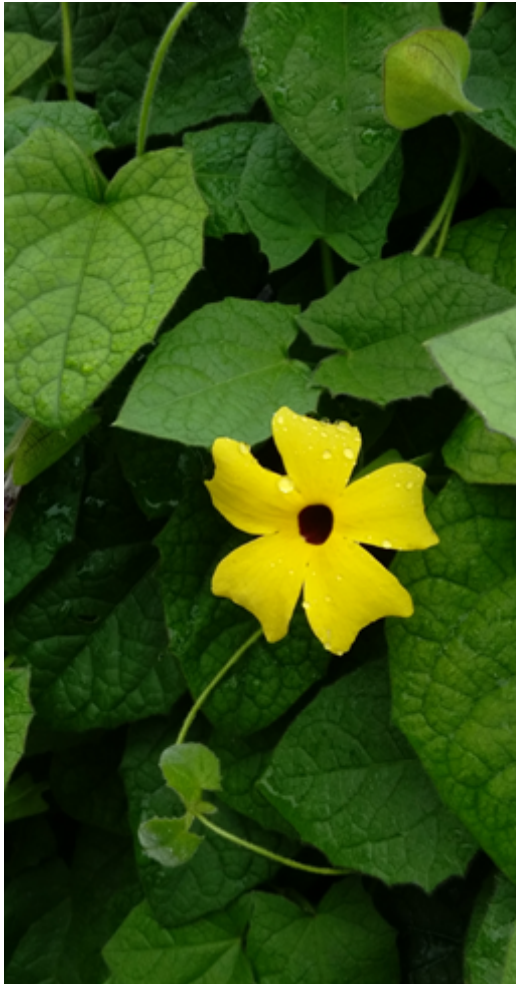


Student question and responses

As future potential contributors to the scholarly information universe as the next generation of researchers ... what can the next generation of researchers do to work toward leveling the global information playing field?

- Play active role in supporting open access – publish, edit, translate, cite
- Make research available in multiple languages
- Strong concern for inclusion of local researchers and making research results available to local populations – using high school students and public libraries

An LIS grad student's experience

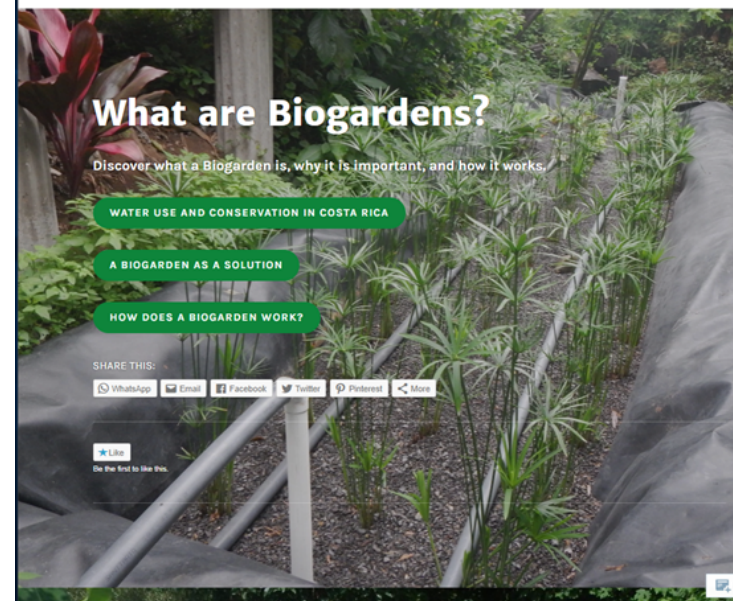


- An overview of my internship parameters and the project goals
- What perspective did I gain?
- What did I come away with that I can leverage in my own career moving forward?



My Project: A Digital Exhibit

- 1. Goal:** to create a digital presence that enhances and exhibits the work MVI students accomplish, and how the library is a gateway to it for the students, scientists and the community.
- 2. Parameters:**
 1. Time
 2. Materials
 3. Expertise
 4. Internet connectivity and other infrastructures



Perspective gained



- *Limited resources and a hard deadline lead to...*
 - *Creativity*
 - *Progress-focused problem solving*





Perspective gained

- *The closeness of community, resources, and the place's history*
- *Focused and facilitated collaborations*
- *Cultural check-ins help me learn*





Perspective gained

- *Mentorship and observation*
 - *Opportunity to work independently*
 - *Opportunity to observe, and sometimes debrief on Laurie's work*





My career moving forward

- What I expected from the internship experience:
 - Hands-on application of technical skills (Metadata)
 - Hands-on experience for the soft skills of librarians (Collaborating)
 - In this case, also: Spanish, digital tools, digitization





My career moving forward

- What I also learned:
 - Flexibility
 - A vastly different perspective on collections
 - Framing – how to talk about the library's (and my) assets & potential
 - A lot about bio-gardens





Bringing our skill-set into the real world in community-based international settings

Follow along notes: <https://tinyurl.com/HIPinCR>

Follow along worksheet: <https://tinyurl.com/HIPinCRwksht>

- *How do you start? What do we bring?*
- *What are the opportunities? Challenges?*
- *Have you had a high impact learning experience in the course of your education or work? How did it impact you?*
- *How important is it to give library school students international service learning opportunities?*
- *How do you feel our profession can do better in this area? Do you think we should?*

Questions??

Thank you for coming.

laurie.kutner@uvm.edu

acanino@library.rochester.edu

