



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase 2012/13

Title: INCLUSIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE LIBRARY TRAINING PROGRAMME

Subject: FOCUS ON THE LIBRARY AT THIRD
LEVEL: AN INDIVIDUAL PERSPECTIVE

Overview: *A project was established to support students with intellectual disabilities in identifying their own library learning goals. Support in achieving these goals was facilitated by adopting an individualised person centred library training programme. This support forms part of the students' transition into university training. The aim of the programme is to focus on the needs and goals of the individual learner without the concern of meeting all third level library training skills. This allows the student to relate their learning to flexible assessment and personal development with independence at the core. Students confidently navigate, understand and utilise resources of the library at their own pace, in keeping with their individual learning goals and academic assessment. The students' learning is recorded and becomes part of their portfolio of achievement.*



How it Works: Students attend a weekly training session in the library. This session is centred around the students library goals and is facilitated by a library staff representative working through an adaptation of the LIST programme. Students are guided through task based learning such as assigned reading lists, personal tours, website navigation and catalogue demonstrations. Support is facilitated in keeping with the students learning style. Library learning partners support the students to continue to develop their skills throughout their university experience in mainstream learning settings. The end goal is to equip the students with the necessary skills for independent learning.

Impact:

The project has allowed the following to become established:

- Greater student confidence in ability and library skills
- Information adapted to suit all types of learners
- Training programme that can be sustainable through volunteer peer support
- Meeting the needs of the individual learner
- Empowering the individual through choice and control over their own learning

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