

Research support: a US experience

by
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Dinkolela • Leading Minds • Dikgopolo Ho Dhlolani

Overview

- Embedded librarian/Outreach/liaison
 - 4 examples
- User needs
- Other services for researchers
- A new mindset and implementation thereof



Embedded librarian/Outreach/liaison

- Apply knowledge and skills of librarians towards the information challenges of the digital age.
- Librarian is taken out of traditional library context and placed in an “on-site” setting or situation that enables close coordination and collaboration with researchers or teaching faculty.

Carlson, J and Kneale, R 2011, 'Embedded librarianship in the research context: navigating new waters', *College & Research Libraries News*, 72 (3), pp. 167-170.

Megan Sapp Nelson - EPICS



- EPICS
(Engineering Projects in Community Service)
- Conduct an interview
- Conceptual design/process
 - Define problem
 - What exists? (literature survey)
 - What is still problematic?
 - Find a link between literature and problem solving



Charlotte Erdmann – IP and patent specialist



- Purdue is a repository library for patents and trademarks
- Corn and soybean competition
- Lecture on searching patents and trademarks
- Assist students in searches
- An Environment for invention and creation
- Students believe they can make a difference



UC Davis Humanities dept.

- Librarians highly qualified
- Different approaches to outreach
 - Social networking
 - Reference works in hard copy
 - Subject guides



Librarians

should know their web 2 tools
and know how to apply them.



Hal Kirkwood – Second Life



- *Second Life* is a free 3D virtual world where users can socialize, connect and create using free voice and text chat.
- 60 – 80 thousand people on 2nd life
- Library in collaboration with dept. of Hospitality
- Simulate a research project
- Information literacy



Hilda Kriel



- Embedding should be physical and virtual
- Examples:
 - Member of research teams - collaboration in scholarly communication activities (IR)
 - Embedded in virtual learning environment (ClickUP)
 - Embedded in teaching and learning support
 - Embedded in academic programs;
 - Digital media literacy course design



User needs

- How to get student input
 - Student advisory group
 - A whiteboard with marker for ideas.
 - A suggestion box
- Reassigning of spaces
 - How do students work on assignments
 - Practicing presentation skills



Marguerite Nel



- Clinical and Translational Science Center
- More than assistance with database searches
- Support in writing research proposals
- Assistance and tools to manage data and references
- Guidance with selection of journals to publish in
- Facilitators in interdisciplinary collaboration



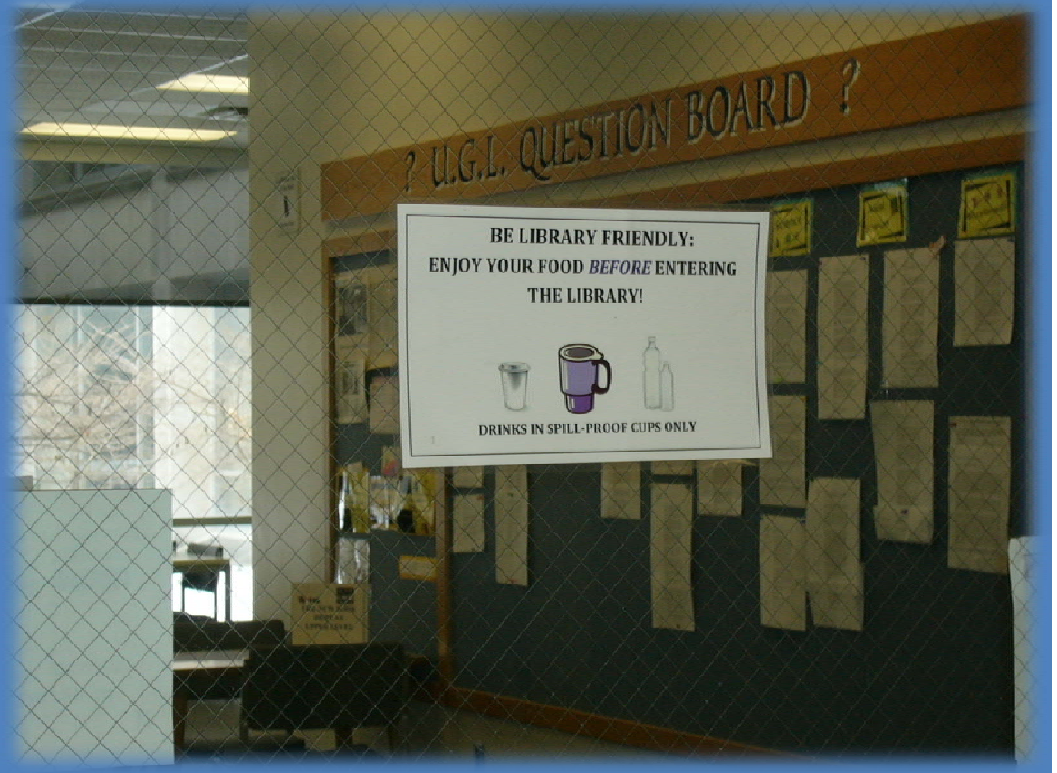
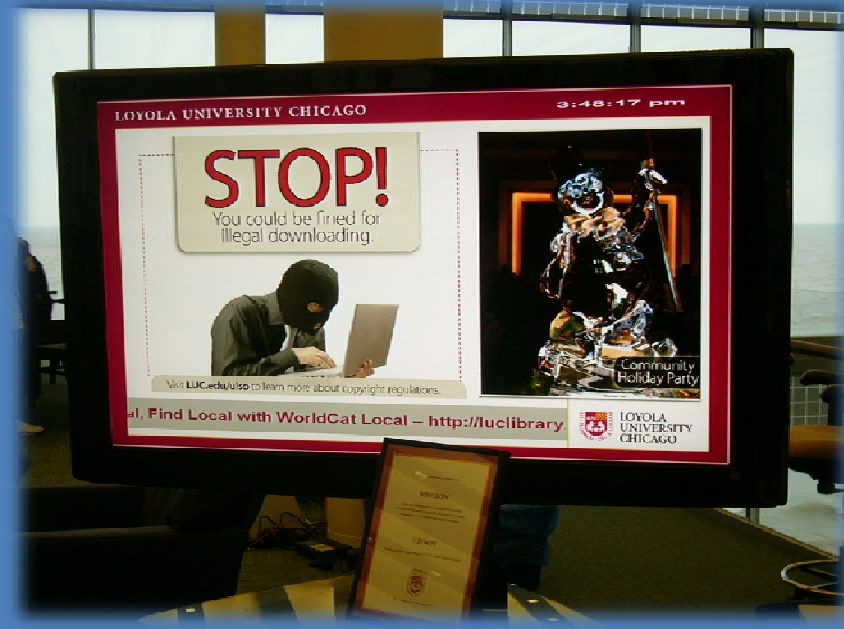
Researcher savvy workshops

- Citation management tools, e.g. Refworks, Endnote, Zotero
- Where to publish, citations and h-indexes
- Critical thinking
- Intellectual property and patents
- Continued learning after graduation – where to find information



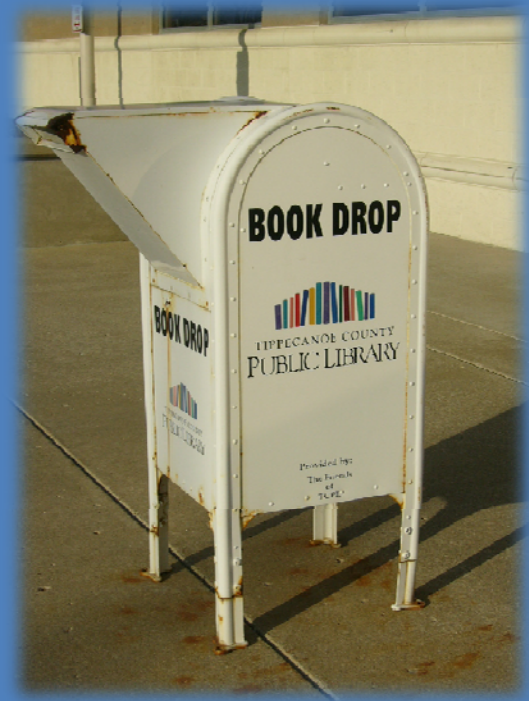
Our Flat screen

- RSS feeds (<http://www.commoncraft.com>)
- Critical reading
(<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/phys/assets/SciPaperTutorial.swf>)
- World news



Other services for Researchers

- Paging a book
- Self uploading of credits for photocopying
- Sound and video equipment



How do I see my role now?

- I am a constant learner
- I am a research therapist
- I am proud to be a university librarian
- I am an educator of information literacy
- I am a research partner, not support staff
- I want to inspire students to help build the country and keep it effective



Implementation of new mindset

- Chemistry meeting
- Assessment problem
- Calibrated peer review/ Michael Fosmire
- I am a research partner, not support staff



Contributions of UP Carnegie Research Academy participants



- What influence did the Academy have on your way of thinking?
- What influence did the Academy have on the way that you perform your job?



Refilwe Matatiele



- I gained an understanding of the SA research landscape and learned how I can use opportunities and gaps in the system for the benefit of our researchers.
- Open access
- Create platforms to share



Chrissie Boeyens



- Researchers have passion for their work
- We need to share in that enthusiasm
- Research methods differs from faculty to faculty
- Researchers often have to cope with interdisciplinary aspects in their work
- Researchers do not work from 9 to 5
- Resources must be easily accessible 24/7



Danie Malan



- I make it my business to help post graduate students who struggle to formulate their research questions.
- The research that we had to do for the Academy, helped me considerably.
- Should we start group discussions for post graduate students?



Gerda Ehlers

- On account of my work at the Learning Centre I now view undergraduates in a different light and realise that our interventions must enable them to eventually go into research .
- The experience helped me to be a better mentor for staff.
- We started a reading circle.



Suzy Nyakale

- The experience was overwhelming.
- Am I relevant to my clients?
- Struggles to get access to medical researchers.
- Focus on undergraduates to lay the foundation of good research.
- She came to the conclusion that she is an embedded librarian



Tersia Coetsee



- Shocked by the dismal state of South African research and realised that she should personally take responsibility to help turn this around.
- This awareness and culture must become part of every librarian and they should do more research and publish it.
- Librarians should create value added services around the needs of researchers.



Julene Vermeulen



- Researchers are passionate about their research and we are privileged to share in that.
- Approach to students changed.
- Doing the research and writing the report heightened her empathy for every student who has to do it for the first time.



Discussion 1

- Are we going to see more subject specializing to have librarians on the same level as researchers?
- Will this necessarily impact on librarians' service?
- From library management the guidance is to decide for yourself what is needed, e.g. short courses, discussions with the lecturers and researchers themselves about their discipline.



Discussion 2

- In what way can the organisation be of assistance in what librarians have learned?
- A list of suggestions will be compiled and support on the implementation would

