The Librarians Librarian: (re)Developing the Online Program Librarian

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The Librarians Librarian: (re)Developing the Online Program Librarian

Abstract
Being an Online Program Librarian means being the person who keeps abreast of new and developing educational technology, who can troubleshoot Blackboard or other online learning environments, and who can (co)develop authentic information literacy instruction (ILI) for various online courses. However, at Lavery Library I am not the person serving online and distance students, but rather the person serving liaison librarians through collaboration with the Educational Technologist and faculty.

Building on this idea, I have been developing my role as the Assessment and Online Program Librarian since summer 2013. Through collaboration with the Educational Technologist I have been able to learn about how St. John Fisher College views online education, I have helped develop best practices for Lavery Library’s video tutorials, and encouraged and supported liaison librarians in their efforts to move traditional, face-to-face ILI to online formats. In collaboration with liaison librarians and faculty, I have helped facilitate the expansion of ILI offerings while keeping in mind the challenges our online and distance students face (e.g. time-on-task) and developed a model of service for our online and distance students and faculty.

Keywords
silo-busting, collaboration, online librarian, online education

Disciplines
Library and Information Science

Comments

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Overview

Developing a model of service for online and distance library services has required collaborations among the new Online Program Librarian, Liaison Librarian, the Educational Technologist, and Faculty.

Needs Assessment

- New Distance Programs planned for School of Education
- Growing online course offerings
- Current staff unable to meet the demand
- Established learning object protocols
- Training and support on new Educational Technology

Projects and Best Practices

- Video Tutorials: 
  - Homepage
  - Bookends & Tutorial Frame for uniformed appearance
  - Built-in Self-Assessments

- Liaisons, Educational Technology, & Blackboard: 
  - Created “Librarian” role
  - Building content for Library Learning Modules
  - Co-teaching Fundamentals of Online Teaching

Roles

- Librarian
- Collaborator
- Teacher
- Trainer
- Investigator
- Cheerleader/Supporter

Analysis and Conclusions

- Maintained strength of liaison librarian relationship with faculty
- Developed librarian to support Distance and Online Education library programming
- Began co-teaching Fundamentals of Online Teaching
- Librarians embedded in Blackboard