

WiLS 2017 Regional Meeting: Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point

Tuesday, November 7th at 1:00 pm

Information Literacy Discussion

Sara shared info on CALL conference, Waukesha Cty project – background for WiLS interest in information literacy.

Rachel Metzler, UW Colleges – 10% Information Literacy Coordinator

- A lot of instruction – how to use the library, ACRL framework for information literacy
- Most campuses are doing a “one-shot” instruction session – mostly tailored to instructor’s goals or a particular assignment (e.g. finding resources, assessing credibility, citations etc.)
- To be in more classes / do more instruction, need faculty to want us there. Currently reaching 89% of students
- For online, lots of video instruction, often made in house. *How do you make video interesting for info lit?*
- Observation program: librarians can travel between campuses and watch each other teach
- Future: survey faculty to get feedback on teaching & how it may affect student success
- Had been working on a badging program – six progressive badges, if you complete them all you get a special mention on your degree (emphasis / specialization), maybe integrate with LinkedIn badging. This may not happen because of UW Colleges merger (Kate has photo)
- Challenges:
 - Faculty buy-in
 - Unified learning objectives (e.g. when I go to English 101, I want students to be able to do these three things – even if lesson is tailored to a certain assignment)
 - Have to be willing to try something and fail

K-12

- Last WI Standards for info lit were in 1998 – draft is in process, now, should be published later this month – DPI has had them out for review and content. Similar standards, but updated for current technology / ALA standards
- Have to be strong advocates for ourselves in public schools – administrators, etc. don’t often understand the purpose / need for LMC staff – not just checking books in & out
- Biggest momentum builder is availability when requested/needed – staffing makes this a challenge
- Overlap with technology allows connection to information literacy / evaluation of sources / etc.
- Teachers need to model good searching, citations, standards
- Build relationships with public libraries – when kids go to public library for help, those people know resources available to kids & standards for grade-level work

Badging is used in lot of communities for info lit. Makerspaces also use badging as scaffolding, flagging kids or membership who can help train others in the space.

McMillan started partnerships with UW-Extension (financial literacy), hospital (health literacy) – started a pattern of looking for partners when putting on programs. Can help increase audience, buy-in, and program quality.

Mid-State also partners with job readiness programs, etc. Should partner more in public library – speaker series, robotics/makerspace.

First step may be simple exchange of information – e.g. Mid-State is hosting a speaker on cyber-bullying, info could be sent out to community calendars, school media specialist, public library.

Tracy – Lincoln HS – takes entire sophomore class over to Mid-State Tech College.

Andy – McMillan – looking at high school / technical college to assess programs and identify gaps – those are the things that can be part of the mission of the public library when they're outside of the school / tech college mission.

Springshare Lib Guides – customizable websites, can link directly into catalogs, etc. Really easy to use. Rachel uses these for online courses to create and curate resource lists in library catalog, approve websites for a specific course, content area, or project. Site is shareable – e.g. a citation guide that one user created could be re-used in several sites.

UW College also uses an instant messaging digital reference service – staffed during business hours by UW Colleges librarians, contracted with UW-Madison after hours. Good for shy / frustrated students – sometimes abused but typically helpful. Want to get to the point where they could use texting. (Currently using LibraryH3lp)

Video resources particularly useful for online help – link out to guides for how to find resources, etc. Also allows for self-service reference desk, maps to Badging program.

Katie, Northcentral Technical College

- Offer one-shot sessions, certain courses/faculty repeat similar sessions every year
- Instruction covers library basics, resources specific to a program, advanced research techniques, evaluation sources, APA citations, etc. Tie in ACRL framework – especially critical thinking concepts – when possible
- Don't have close partnerships with school districts, but curious what is taught at the K12 level. Students come from a lot of different backgrounds, so start sessions with gauging where students are already.
- Built relationships with faculty by going to team meetings, sharing existing library resources, asking what resources they'd like to see. Trying to visit teams on a 3-year rotation.
- NTC has developed an in-house version of LibGuides using Microsoft templates due to cost barrier. Posted as PDFs on Library website. Could also do with a web editor (e.g. Drupal or Wordpress)

LibGuides are also useful because there's a common user experience.

Librarian at UW-Eau Claire (Jill Markgraf) who does "Library Improv" – applying "yes, and" to library work. The moment you say no – to faculty / teachers / partnerships – they're not going to come to you again.

How can publics help?

- Teach BadgerLink in schools
- Market Gale Courses through the Chamber of Commerce to help small business (McMillan is doing this)
- Who falls between the cracks? Not high school / college students, but still need resources. Difficult to do anything formal – they're coming in with different needs, backgrounds, industries – but need to build connections and provide resources. "InfoLit on Demand" – when the student is ready the teacher appears – but how do you connect when they're not looking for a teacher or don't think you have the resources?
- Also consider private school partnerships
- Publics can do get a library card / resource tables at activity fairs, etc.
- Public library access via bookmobile etc. in schools/neighborhoods where it could be an effort to get to the library, limited access library cards (e.g. 3 books), etc – simply encouraging access to information

Takeaways:

- Collaboration & communication between library types is key
- Challenge is that students/learners don't universalize what they learn about info lit. How do you get them to see the bigger picture – both across curriculum but also beyond school
- Different spaces / different rule sets to encourage library use by a variety of groups/ages