Library dialogue with first year students: enhancing the user experience.

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The journey with you today

- Background & Introduction
  - WHSL Background
  - What is Libguides
  - Advantages & Disadvantages

- Opportunity for Orientation knocks

- Planning and preparations

- Experience with the New Students

- Lessons learnt
WHSL is at the Wits Medical School in Parktown, Johannesburg.
WHSL provides services to the following:

- Students – UG & PG
- Academic staff
- Clinical Staff (Joint Appointees)
- Schools – Physiology, Clinical Medicine, Anatomy, Oral Health & Therapeutic Sciences.
- Teaching Hospitals – Chris Hani Baragwanath, Helen Joseph, Charlotte Maxeke, Rahima Moosa, Tara HM Moross, and Tintswalo rural facility
What are Libguides

- Yelinek (2010) defines Libguides as “a Web 2.0 information management and Web publishing system that does not require a high level of technology expertise to create Web pages”.
- Libguides are hosted, managed and supported by the Springshare Corporation (Springshare, 2013)
- Point of need tool to guide in using library resources
- “Cheat Sheet”
Why Libguides orientation at WHSL

- WHSL 2013 1st year students orientation was different and unique
  - Use of Libguides (Springershare & Library Staff)
- To market the Libguides
- To introduce the Library Staff to new students
- To promote the Library Resources especially electronic
- More and more Academic Libraries are transitioning to the use of Libguides
- Meet 21st century ever evolving students information needs physically and electronically
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allows for the creation of content in different formats</td>
<td>Negative experience</td>
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<td>Allows incorporation of Web 2.0 elements</td>
<td>Students must get value out of Libguides</td>
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<td>Libguides community allows for sharing of ideas and information</td>
<td>No marketing, no use</td>
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<td>Remote hosting of Libguides an added advantage</td>
<td>Digital divide</td>
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<td>Accessible 24/7 with internet connectivity</td>
<td>Access to the internet</td>
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<td>Needs “electricity” to be accessible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
<td>Disadvantages</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Libguides are customizable</td>
<td>- Needs to be kept current</td>
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<td>- May be used as a library home page</td>
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Opportunity for Orientation knocks

- Faculty invitation to participate
- Collaboration is good public relations
- Each department given 3 hour session
- For 2013, the library was looking for something that is student-centred to stimulate the new students for them to have an engaging learning experience
- Ideas discussed in and Libguides orientation was approved
Planning and preparation

- Discussion during weekly meetings
- Allocation of duties and responsibilities
- Team work (groups allocation)
- Involvement of the Museum Staff
- Team Leaders identified
- Questions drafted
Experience with the New students
First Group First Session

- Registration
- First 300 students - divided into 5 groups
- 2 Libguides allocated for each group
- Lecture Hall for Live presentation on the New Students Guide
- Session lasted for 1 hour 30 min
• 2 Library staff Libguides per group

• Colour coded caps for each group

• Caps colours match with question paper colours for each group

• Spot prizes from vendors given randomly to much excitement
First group in Lecture Hall
Libguide presentation

Library > LibGuides > WHSL New Students' Guide

WHSL New Students' Guide  Tags: 1st, health, new, sciences, students, years:
A guide to the use of the Witwatersrand Health Sciences Library for new students
Last Updated: Feb 18, 2013
URL: http://libguides.wits.ac.za/whsl-newstudents

Welcome to Wits!
A very warm welcome to Wits University, and in particular, to the Faculty of Health Sciences. We hope that your years of study will be productive and rewarding, and that you will find the Library at the Medical School (the Witwatersrand Health Sciences Library or WHSL for short) a warm and inviting place to explore new information and to study for your exams, as well as discuss your projects with your co-students.

Entrance to the Witwatersrand Health Sciences Library (WHSL)
You must at all times use your student card to swipe for entry into the library. No entry will be allowed without a student card.

Information Desk
If you need any assistance regarding library use, books, journals or general information visit the information desk from 08h30 - 17h00 during week days.

Can't Find What You're Looking for in This Guide?
Let us know what you need so we can add it to the Guide. Contact the Teaching & Learning Support Librarian or ask the Librarian on duty at the Information Desk.
Second Group
First Session

- Divided into 5 groups of 60 each with 2 library “Libguides “per group
- Each group answered 5 questions on:
  - Adler Museum, Medicinal Garden, WHSL, Medical School Foyer area
- All the groups were colour coded according to their “Libguides “ cap colours
GROUP 1

Instruction: Fill in the answers to the questions on this sheet, then hand them in to your LibGuide when you have finished.

Write your Name in full: ____________________________________________

1. Go to the shelves in the library and find any book. Then list the following:
   a. Author:
   b. Title:
   c. Year of publication:
   d. Place of publication:
   e. Publisher:

2. Use the same book and write down:
   a. The second item in the table of contents:
   b. The edition of the book (if any):
   c. Is there an index (subject or author) in the book?

3. Find the shelf number (the physical address or location) of ONE of the following books:

4. When and by whom was Homoeopathy developed? Answer from the Adler Museum.

5. What is the Sotho name for the plant “Dombeya rotundifolia” found in the Medicinal Garden?
GROUP 2

Instruction: Fill in the answers to the questions on this sheet, then hand them in to your LibGuide when you have finished.

Write your Name in full: ____________________________________________

1. Name the two kinds of Traditional Healers. Answer from the Adler Museum.
2. Go to the shelves in the library and find any book. Then list the following:
   a. Author
   b. Title:
   c. Year of publication:
   d. Place of publication:
   e. Publisher:
3. Use the same book and write down the following:
   a. The second item in the table of contents
   b. The edition of the book (if any)
   c. Is there an index (subject or author) in the book?
4. Find the shelf number (the physical address or location) of ONE of the following books:
5. What is the Zulu name for the plant “Hypoxis hemerocallidea” found in the Medicinal Garden?
Medicinal Garden

- Resting/relaxation area
- Know the medicinal plants
- Knowledge sharing sessions
- Chat area
Adler Museum

History of medicine

SA Medical Reference library

Scientific instruments

Educational tours
Kudu Bucks machine

- Foyer - central
- Fines
- Photocopies
Library staff “Libguides”
Second Session

- Groups swapped
  - 300 students in the Lecture Hall – split into their colour coded groups and answered questions
  - 5 Groups – merged and attended the Live Presentation in the Lecture Hall
Lessons learnt

• Opportunity for Librarians to think outside the box
• Libguides are good tools to promote the library and its resources
• Students enjoy learning by doing rather than “sit and listen”
• Academic Libraries need to change the way they provide information to meet the ever-changing needs of students
• Librarians enjoyed engaging with students
• Libraries are still relevant BUT need to change the format in which they provide information - more “e” less “p”
Thank You

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