

Blended Planning: Teamwork for the Library-2-LMS Conference Spawns New Partnerships

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Poster Session Abstract:

In 2008 the College at Brockport's library and Information Technology (IT) staff stirred up a successful one-day conference: "Integrating Library Services into Learning Management Systems." This session will describe the details for planning the conference as well as the practical ideas generated by presenters and participants. It will also show how the library and IT departments' collaboration created unexpected, yet long-term, benefits.

This poster session addresses three main topics:

1. One-day conference logistics.



"Library-2-LMS" (its shortened title) was a one-day regional conference where participants learned about ways in which libraries had incorporated information, databases, tutorials, and assessment instruments into learning management systems. The concept for the conference originated during a library/IT meeting. One librarian, with support from several departments, wrote and received a \$5000

COCID (Conference on Computing in the Disciplines) grant from a statewide SUNY Technology committee. The conference was then coordinated and attended by librarians, instructional designers, and instructional technology professionals. With an overwhelming number of high quality submissions for presentations, the conference planners had to ask some proposers to showcase their work in poster format. On the day of the conference over 130 enthusiastic participants from 13 states and two Canadian provinces listened to one keynote address and then chose from 9 concurrent sessions led by librarians and information technology staff. 13 poster presentations were also available for viewing throughout the day. Feedback from attendees was positive; as one commented, "The blend of librarians and IT professionals was the perfect match for spawning both ideas and solutions."

2. Practical ideas gained from the conference.

Conference organizers themselves used ANGEL (Brockport's LMS) to organize the event and to make information available after the conference. The wide variety of potential library applications used in learning management systems included:

Library Tabs
Nuggets/Building Blocks
Learning Object Repositories
Tutorials/Quizzes

Embedded Librarian Programs
Librarian's Corners
Assessment Pieces

3. Further developments between the library and IT (Information Technology) departments.

By working with members from IT the librarians not only gained valuable professional support but also developed a rapport that has extended beyond the conference. The design of a library-specific widget to be placed in ANGEL was accomplished more easily, as the IT staff had observed the importance of having library information readily accessible to students. In the summer following the conference the IT support department, along with computer labs, moved to the ground floor of the library. A new “Educational Technology Center” was built; IT professionals and librarians are teaching workshops there in a joint venture to promote the new facility. More changes are developing as the units merge to form the new “Library, Information, and Technology Services” division.

Additional Information is available on the following websites:

1. Poster and all materials available on my blog:
<http://librariandesign.wikispaces.com>
2. Conference Web site:
<http://www.brockport.edu/lib2lms>
3. Final conference proceedings:
<http://tinyurl.com/4ffdn2>
4. Blog describing the planning process:
<http://one-a-day-planner.blogspot.com>
5. Information about the COCID (Conference on Computing in the Disciplines) grant:
<http://www.fact.suny.edu/cocids.html>
6. The College at Brockport Library and Information Technology Services Website:
<http://www.brockport.edu/LITS> (a work in progress)
7. The College at Brockport Drake Memorial Library website
<http://www.brockport.edu/library/>



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