Collaboration Leads to Integration
A model for embedding library resources into online learning

Jennifer Castaldo and Anita Norton
Sheridan Libraries, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Overview

To make better use of library resources, we realized the need to collaborate at the ground level of the course development process. Through partnering with faculty, instructional designers and staff, we provide consultations about library resources and services as soon as a new course is developed or revised.

Process

- Held a pilot program of participating in course development calls
- Determined guidelines and procedures of what we could provide to instructors
- Participated in calls based on librarians’ liaison areas
- Managed expectations: set realistic goals and timelines
- Standardized request procedure through the Course Resource Request Form
- Created system for tracking and assessing involvement

Resources provided:
- Customized tip sheets and instructional guides
- Video tutorials
- Specialized chat sessions
- Embedded librarian services
- Collaborative library assignments

Results

- Currently have a formal integration process where we are in on almost all course development calls for new and revised courses
- Conduct follow up calls to determine needs
- 31 out of 41 calls resulted in integration
- Improved student success through collaboration: reliable sources and more quality work

Background

The Entrepreneurial Library Program at the Johns Hopkins University creates customized library and information services for clients. For one such client, Excelsior College, the library created a process for integrating services and resources systematically into online courses.

Future Work

- Continue to participate in course development calls
- Seek out new ways to market our resources and services
- Embed services into additional "high impact" courses
- Conduct virtual office hours pilot using Adobe Connect
- Gauge success over time through continuous assessment