You Live, You Learn: Leadership and Professional Development for the Instruction Librarian

8th Annual Metrolina Information Literacy Conference
June 13, 2013

Amy Harris Houk
Kathy Shields
Who are we?

Amy Harris Houk
- Information Literacy Program Coordinator, UNCG
- Supervise one staff member who helps with instruction
- 9 other librarians do instruction as part of their liaison duties
- Approximately 600 sessions per year

Kathy Shields
- Head of Reference and Instruction, High Point University
- Not a direct supervisor
- Have 3 other librarians who do instruction, but no true instruction staff
- Approximately 200-225 sessions per year
Overview

• Leadership

• Tips from the Trenches

• Challenges

• What We’ve Done

• Ways to Train

• Professional Development

• Our Favorite Resources

• Discussion!
LEADERSHIP
Tips from the Trenches

- Build relationships
- Buy-in is essential
- Communicate (the Goldilocks rule)
- Advocate for your program

We are all leaders!
Challenges

• Leading from the side
• Competing priorities
• Doing more with less
• Generational differences
What we’ve done

• UNCG:
  • Monthly workshops (sometimes)
  • Sandbox sessions
  • Updates at Reference meetings
  • Drop-in consults

• HPU:
  • Workshops in conjunction with staff meetings (sporadically)
  • LibGuide on Information Literacy
  • Individual consults with new librarians
Ways to train

- Teaching Practice
- Observation
- Co-teaching
- Workshops
  - Formal
  - Informal
- Online
- One-on-one consultations
How can instruction coordinators best support teaching librarians?
How do you keep up?

- Make it part of the routine
- Pick and choose
- Technology is your friend (RSS, Twitter, etc.)
- Build a network
What are your tips for keeping up with current trends in teaching/information literacy?
Our Favorite Resources

Listservs
- ILI-I
- INFOLIT
- EMLIBS
- ACRL FYE

Blogs/Websites
- Project Information Literacy
- ACRLLog
- Infomational (Char Booth)
- ProfHacker (CHE)
- The Unquiet Library (Buffy Hamilton)
- Train Station (NC State Library)
- TED Talks
Our Favorite Resources

Conferences
• This one (of course!)
• LOEX
• Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching
• ACRL
• Immersion (not really a conference)
• Georgia Conference on Information Literacy
• Elon’s Teaching and Learning Conference (August)

Organizations
• NC BIG (NCLA)
• LIRT (ALA)
• IS (ACRL)
Our Favorite Resources

Books
• Classroom Assessment Techniques (Angelo and Cross)
• Anything by Joanna Burkhardt
• Anything by Maryellen Weimer
• Reflective Teaching, Effective Learning (Char Booth)

Journals/Articles
• Communications in Information Literacy
• “Heart of a Teacher” by Parker Palmer
• RUSQ
• College and Research Libraries News
• Hybrid Pedagogy
What resources have you found most effective for professional development in information literacy?
QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?

THANK YOU FOR COMING!