

University of Pretoria

Embedded Librarianship Seminar 31 October 2012



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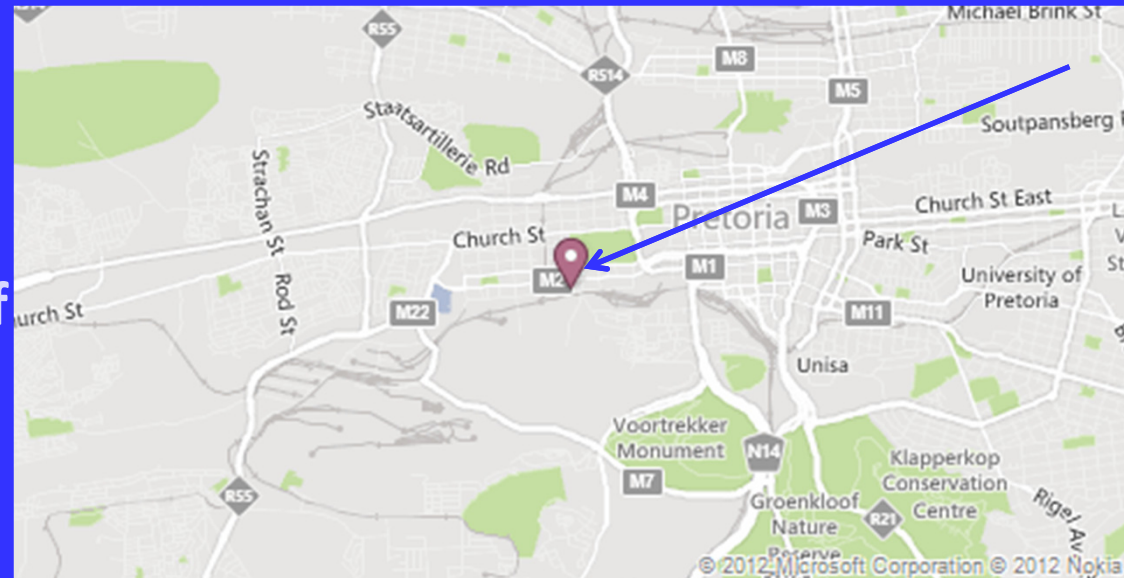
The obsessive-compulsive librarian: creating a service for a Department at the mental health hospital

Magriet Lee



History

- Established in 1892:
- 1945: Dept of Medical Psychology
- 1947: Weskoppies
- Library
 - Transvaal Dept of Health
 - Staff
 - 1990's
- Clients: Lecturers, PG/UG students, Psychologists



Why ?

- One more library in Health Sciences Libraries group ?
- Extra work load – travelling, distance
- Level of service
- Research output
- Space available
- Personal contact
- They deserve it



How

- The right people /the right time /the right place
- Evidence, cost, project framework
- Man / woman power
- Soap and water
- Furniture from Merensky store room
- Obsessive need to upgrade the services, environment





Services

- No printed sources in library
- Regular visits
- On-site training
- Follow up on emails, literature searches
- New books / assistance with renewals & returns
- Marketing of new products, services
- Assist with literature studies and referencing of protocols, articles, theses and dissertations
- Collect and deliver library-related mail
- Attend Postgraduate presentations, research feedback sessions

Opportunities



**Presentation:
The agony and ecstasy of
PowerPoints**

15 June 2012



Obsessive compulsive disorder

“The experience of prolonged excessive worry about circumstances in one's life. OCD is characterized by distressing repetitive thoughts, impulses or images. These thoughts are usually followed by ritualized actions that can be bizarre and irrational, or be perfectly reasonable actions, such as cleaning that are taken to extremes. These ritual actions, known as compulsions, help reduce anxiety” (Gale Encyclopedia)



The obsessive-compulsive librarian

“Glam culture is ultimately rooted in obsession, and those of us who are truly devoted and loyal to the lifestyle of glamour are masters of its history. Or, to put it more elegantly, we are librarians.”

— *Lady Gaga*



Biggest challenge: Pretoria CBD traffic on a Friday



Conclusion



*Gautrain June 2010
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