Facing new challenges... is synergy the answer ?

Elna Randall and Hettie Groenewald

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7th, 8th, 9th February 2007



University of Pretoria

Agenda

- Challenges
- How to cope with challenges ?
- Synergy
- Examples
- Conclusion
- Bibliography



Challenges

Changing role of Information Specialist

- Cyberspace
- Redistribution of information:
 - Education and E-Learning
 - Research and E-Research



- Accessibility to information
- Integration and evaluation of information
- Network research tools
- Communication options: e-mail, Click Up system at UP, webblogs, web pages, wikis



Redistributing of information (packaging)

- Databases (Full text and bibliographic)
- web pages
- electronic newsletters
- institutional repositories
- list serves, communication channels
- on-line journals



Impact of this challenge on our roles as providers of information ?

- Becoming gateway to information
- Strategic planning needed to accommodate the change



Get involved:

- faculty strategic planning
- curriculum
- educating clients to search, evaluate information
- communication options: e-mail, webblogs, web pages



Problems arising

- need exceeds the available of LIS
- addressing these needs:

Partnerships on campus



Where to start ...

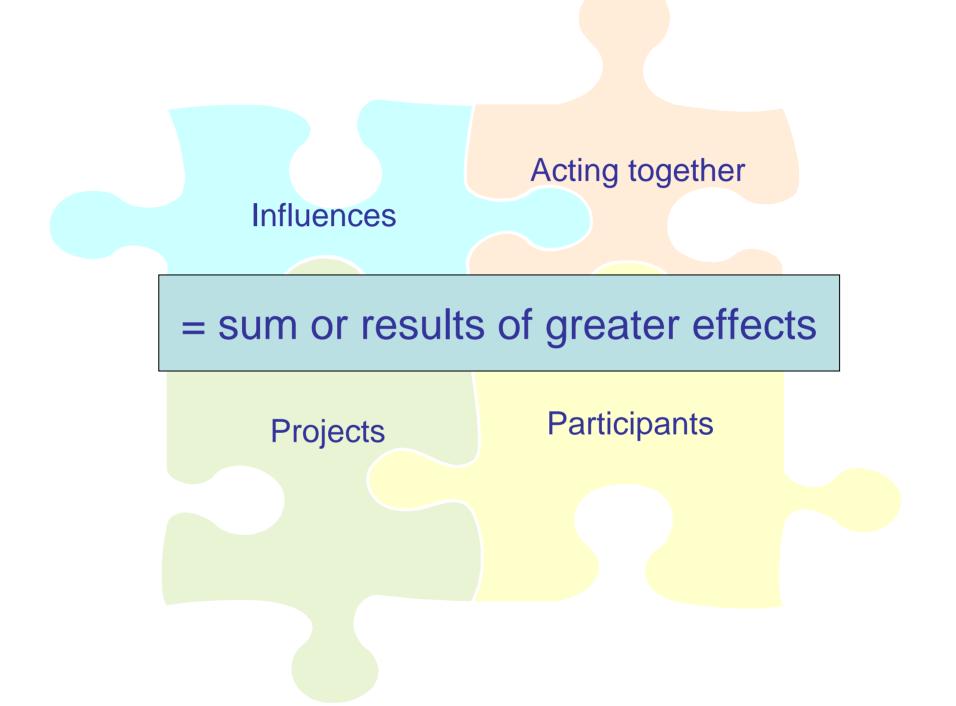
- UP strategy
- Faculty Strategic Plans
 - Focus areas
 - Projects
 - Partners
- Higher Education Policy in South Africa
 - Information Specialist



Synergy/synergism

- " Synergy or synergism (from the <u>Greek</u> synergos meaning working together, circa <u>1660</u>) refers to the phenomenon in which two or more discrete influences or agents acting together create an effect greater than the sum of the effects each is able to create independently"
 - From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia





Focus area :Education of students

Information literacy needs addressed

- need for information
- access to information
- evaluating information
- managing information
- creating and presenting new information



Example 1: Education of students

JSQ 226 :

- seven Engineering departments involved
- Unit for Academic Literacy
 - conducting lectures
 - manual
- Information specialists
 - contribution to manual
 - presentations





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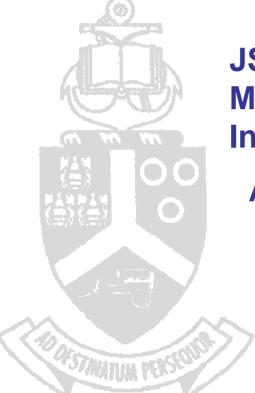
JSQ 226

COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR ENGINEERS 2006

Compiled by: Prof. Adelia Carstens

Acknowledgements:

"I also gratefully acknowledge the input by information specialists from the Academic Information Service " (page i)



JSQ 226: Mechanical Engineering Industrial- and Systems Engineering

Academic Information Service support ..

Designed and compiled by:

Elna Randall and Hettie Groenewald Information Specialists 3rd August 2006

(012) 420-2266 email: elna.randall@up.ac.za email: hettie.groenewald@up.ac.za © 2006

Example 2: Educating our Clients

Different options for the training of students are conducted:

- hands-on training sessions: general library orientation, catalogue
- subject specific training sessions
- assignment linked training when needed



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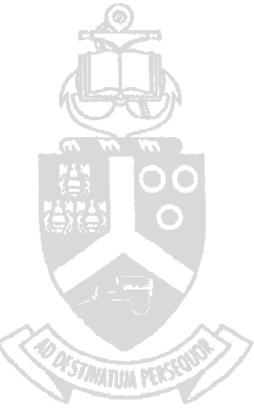
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Project Management

'Roadmap' to Information Resources... Contributions by : Prof Herman Steyn

Designed and compiled by:

Hettie Groenewald Information Specialist 22nd September 2006

(012) 420-3876 email: hettie.groenewald@up.ac.za © 2005



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Academic Information Service support ..

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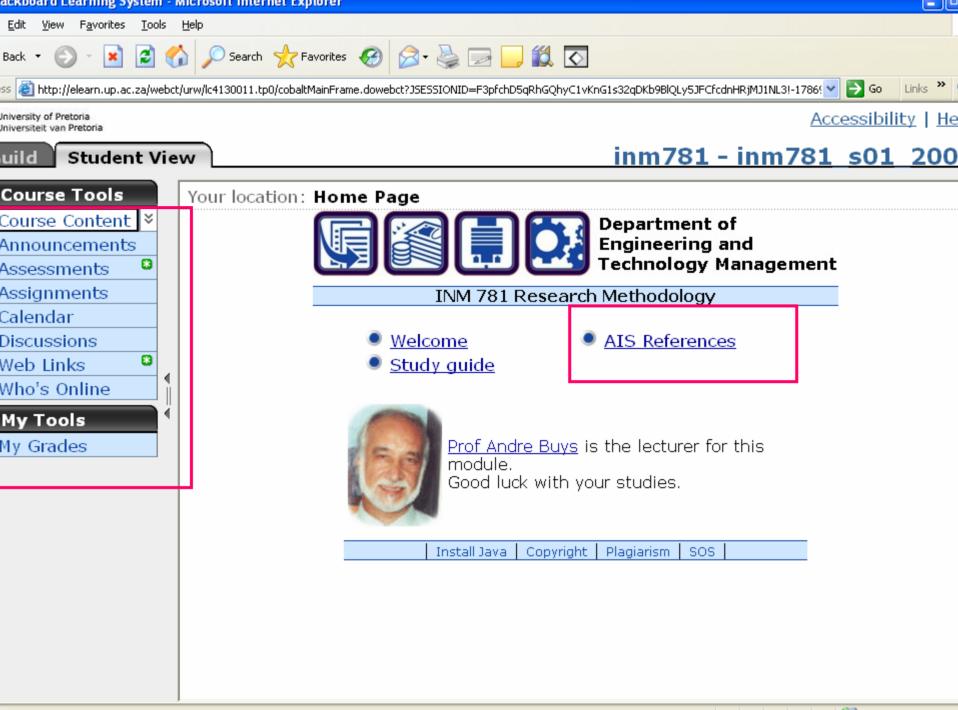
Hettie Groenewald Information Specialist 13 July 2006

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Example 3: Education Innovation Courses

- Department of Education Innovation:
 - Instructional designers
 - ClickUP system
- Lecturers
- Academic Information Service :
 - Copyright and scanning
 - Information Specialists





Example 4: Research web page

Postgraduate students need:

- information concerning their studies
- locating information resources
- providing support services
- Research web page to address needs
 - collaboration with various lecturers
 - support services involved



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Example 5: Redistributing of information

Libraries are the providers of resources for education and research:

- books, journals
- electronic resources
- other resources
- accessibility ?



Solution: Redistributing of information (packaging)

- e-strategy developed by the AIS
- UPSpace : an institutional digital research repository was launched in 2005
- Services includes :
 - collection building
 - storage in digital format
 - preservation and digitization
 - retrieval options



Collections on UP Space

Involving:

- Department of Architecture
- Information Specialist (AIS)
- Digitization Unit and Special Collections (AIS)
- Cataloguer (AIS)
- UPSpace manager



Collections on UP Space

Project team and workflow

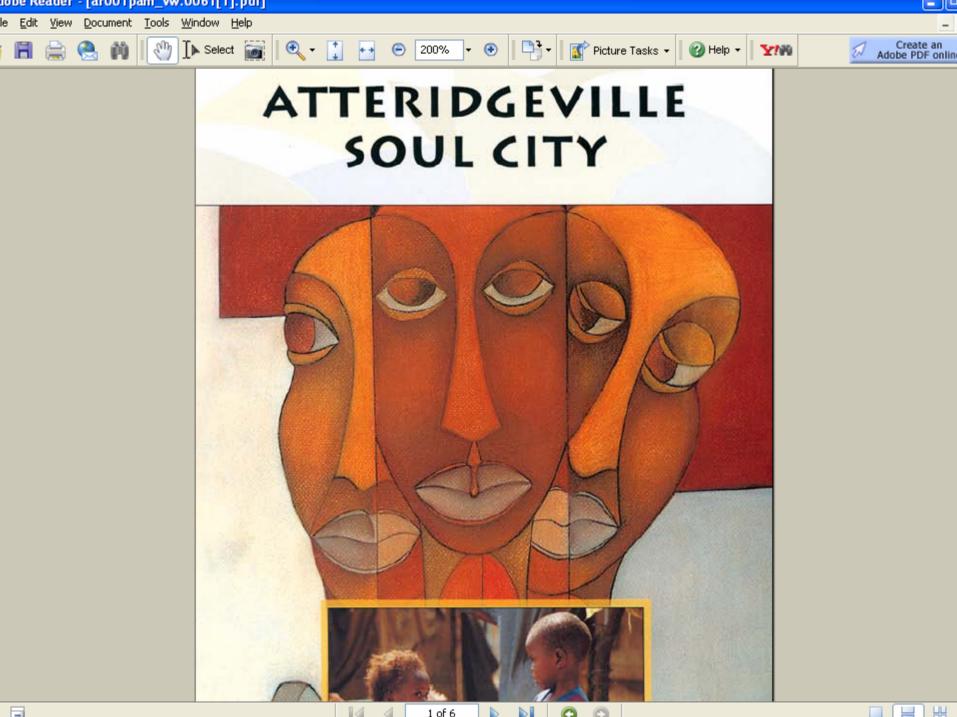
- Digitization procedure and standards
- Metadata fields defined
- Collection registered
- Collection policy defined



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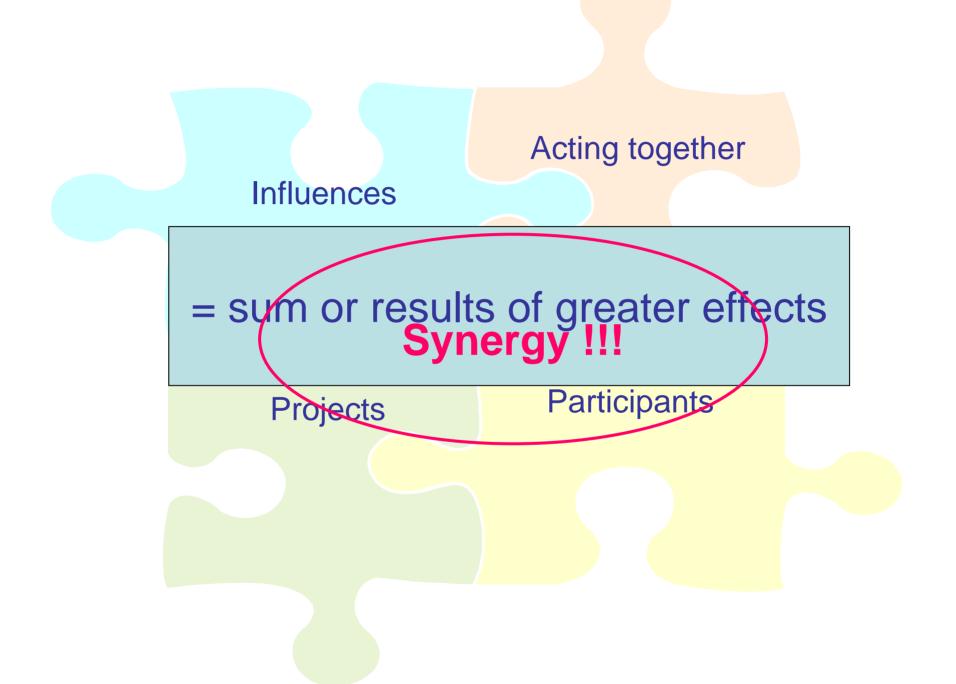
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Thank you !

elna.randall@up.ac.za hettie.groenewald@up.ac.za

This presentation will be available on: **UPSpace** https://www.up.ac.za/dspace/



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