Facing new challenges… is synergy the answer?

Elna Randall and Hettie Groenewald

2nd Annual Africa Libraries & Information Management Systems 2007
The Grace Hotel, Rosebank, JHB

7th, 8th, 9th February 2007
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
Challenges: Cyberspace

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

Redistributing of information (packaging)
• Databases (Full text and bibliographic)
• web pages
• electronic newsletters
• institutional repositories
• list serves, communication channels
• on-line journals
Challenges: Cyberspace

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

• **Becoming** gateway to information
• **Strategic planning** needed to accommodate the change
Challenges: Cyberspace

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 Greek synergos meaning working together, circa 1660) 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
Influences
Acting together
= sum or results of greater effects
Projects
Participants
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
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..

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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
Using the Library facilities and resources to its full potential:

At the library we are committed towards equipping you with the necessary information literacy skills to conduct your research in the most effective way. Through teaching you how to use the various information resources available at the library we want to put you in charge of your own learning, teaching and research, and support you in your endeavour towards learning, teaching and research excellence and success.

A person is regarded as information literate when that person:

- recognises information literacy as a prerequisite for lifelong learning;
- recognises a need for information;
- determines the information that is needed at a certain point in time;
- accesses the information;
- evaluates the information;
- uses information effectively;
- classifies, stores, manipulates information, and
- uses information ethically and legally in the correct way.

Provision is made for various learning styles through e-learning tutorials, pamphlets, presentations and manuals.
<table>
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<th>Session Topic</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Students</th>
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School for Built Environment

- Architecture
  - Information Resources and Support (2007)
  - Pamphlet (2007)
- Construction Economics
  - Information Resources and Support (September 2006)
  - Pamphlet (2007)
- Town- and Regional Planning
  - Information Resources and Support
  - Pamphlet (2007)

School of Engineering

- Carbon Chair (August 2006)
  - Chemical Engineers (2007)
  - Water Utilization (2007)
- Civil- and Biosystems Engineers
  - Information Resources and Support (2007)
  - Pamphlet (2007)
- EEC Engineering
  - Information Resources
Project Management

‘Roadmap’ to Information Resources...
Contributions by: Prof Herman Steyn

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ONT 100: Dept of Architecture
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Academic Information Service support ..

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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
Welcome

AIS References

Prof Andre Buys is the lecturer for this module.
Good luck with your studies.
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
Welcome to the postgraduate research support web!

Through this web we would like to address the specific research needs of our postgraduates and researchers at the University of Pretoria. We would like to strengthen the research capacity at the University of Pretoria by:

- Bringing "global" information to researchers
- Stimulating and supporting the publication and dissemination of UP research findings
- Providing information and communication skills training for researchers
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
- **Special Collections**
  - **African Heritage Digital Collection**
    - **Anthropological, Archaeological and History Collections**
      - Van Warmelo Collection
      - Woodhouse Collection
  - **Pretoriana**
    - Van der Waal Collection
  - **South African Architects, Buildings and Towns**
    - Gerard Moerdyk
    - Norman Eaton Collection
    - Pearse Collection
    - Sir Herbert Baker Collection
    - TUKS Alumni: Architects, Interior Architects and Landscape Architects
  - **Special Books and Maps Collections**
    - Africana Maps
    - Birch Collection
  - **South African Music Collection**
    - Marita Napier Collection

- **UPSpace**
  - **UPSpace Policies & Guidelines**
  - **UPSpace Publisher/ Author Permissions**

- **Veterinary Science**
  - **Academic Information Service Collections**
    - Arnold Theiler Collection
    - Newspaper articles about the Faculty of Veterinary Science
    - Veterinary Science Library Presentations & Conference Papers
Please use this identifier to cite or link to this item: http://hdl.handle.net/2263/660

Title: Atteridgeville Soul City

Author/s: Unknown

Illustrator/s: Malope, Solly

Other Contributor/s: Matiyane, Titus

LC Subjects: Atteridgeville (Pretoria, South Africa) -- History

Keywords: Marabastad
Jazz City
Slums Act of 1934
Bartule
Natives Trust and Land Act of 1936
ISCOR
Saulsville Arena
Moise Mogolo
Atteridge, Mrs. W. H.
Non-European and Asiatic Affairs of the City Council
Saulsville
Mooiplaas
Lady Selborne
Group Areas Act of 1950
Methodist Church
United Reformed Church
black township
politics

Issue Date: 16-Nov-1999

Creation Date: 28-Apr-2006

Publisher: Culture and Recreation Deparment, City Council of Pretoria

Series/Report no.: ar001vw_dvd002
ar001pam_vw.0061

Abstract: A pamphlet promoting Atteridgeville as a vibrant neighbourhood with the potential of leading the African Renaissance at a local level. A brief history of the township is included.

URL: http://hdl.handle.net/2263/660
Acting together

Influences

Projects

Participants

= sum or results of greater effects

Synergy !!!
Bibliography

- Eisenberg, Michael. Information literacy: essential skills for the information age. Westport, Conn: Libraries Unlimited, 2004
- Nenthwith, M. Cyberscience: research in the age of the internet, Austria Academy of Sciences Press, Vienna, 2003
Thank you!

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