



Keynote Speakers

Dr Glenda Myers

Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM); Evidence-Based-Librarianship (EBL); and All That Jazz

Curriculum vitae:

Glenda Myers [BA H Dip Lib (Witwatersrand); BBibl Hons, MBibl (Unisa); D Litt et Phil (RAU)] has worked in public, special and academic libraries in the fields of Africana, Medicine, Engineering and Science and Technology. She is currently employed as the Witwatersrand Health Sciences Librarian at the University of the Witwatersrand. Her field of expertise is in electronic information retrieval and she has delivered papers at numerous local and overseas conferences.

The topic of her doctoral thesis was Evidence-based librarianship and she is the expert in this field in South Africa

Abstract:

Evidence-based Librarianship (EBL) is an approach to information science that promotes the collection, interpretation, and integration of valid, important and applicable user-reported, librarian-observed, and research-derived evidence. The best-available evidence moderated by user needs and preferences, is applied to improve the quality of professional judgements.

Booth A. *Exceeding Expectations: Achieving Professional Excellence by Getting Research into Practice*. **LIANZA 2000**.

[Evidence-based librarianship] improve[s] library practice by utilizing the best available evidence combined with a pragmatic perspective developed from working experience in librarianship. Madge, B. *Evidence Based Librarianship: Tools we all can use*. MLA 2000.

The key issue for the profession is 'Do we have the research base upon which to build evidence based practice?' Today, sadly I feel the answer is No. The next question is then how do we enthuse the next generation of librarians to build evidence based practice? Fowler G (2000) Evidence based health care: diverse career opportunities for librarians. *Proceedings ALIA 2000*.

This was a lively and thought-provoking presentation on the role of Evidence-based Librarianship (EBL) and how it can be used to improve the quality of professional judgements. She invited our participation in a survey she will be undertaking.