THE LIBRARIAN SAYS...
TURN YOUR CELLPHONES ON!

Piloting mobile phones and polling in Inquiry-based information literacy instruction

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NELIG Annual Program, 6/3/2011
TEACHING FIRST YEAR STUDENTS IS...

Send your text to 37607. Include 91643, then your answer.

"tedious"
"always different each time"
"need patience"

"fun"
"reptative"
"exciting"

"totally Rad!"
". Exhausting"
"awesome!!! :-)
"scary"

"hard"

"always a learning opportunity"
"challenging"
CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE, Burlington, VT

- 2000 on-campus students
- Professional Focus
  - Multimedia Graphics
  - E-gaming
  - Digital Forensics
  - Business
- New Interdisciplinary Core Curriculum
  - Roll-out began Fall 2007

http://www.flickr.com/photos/glemak/270321175/
CHAMPLAIN’S UNIQUE “CORE” CURRICULUM

- Sequential, linked, theme-based courses
- Interdisciplinary
- Inquiry-based
- Common, master syllabi
- Common texts
- Common, project-based, research assignments

Apple Core (1992) by Claes Oldenberg (1929- ), Billy Rose Sculpture Garden, Israel Museum in Jerusalem.
http://www.flickr.com/photos/imagemd/827470717/
CHAMPLAIN’S INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAM

- “All students, all four years”
- Incremental
- Embedded
- Inquiry Based
- Rubric-based assessments
- Common curriculum

http://www.flickr.com/photos/malloy/195204215/
DESIGNING THE SESSION

- **Process**
  - Collaborative design
  - Iterative
  - Willingness to fail

- **Requirements**
  - Inquiry Based

- **Personal Goals**
  - “All fun, all the time”
  - Breakdown barriers
  - Thoughtful integration of technology
  - Learn something about our students

[Image: http://www.flickr.com/photos/michaelsphotos/183018674]
THE “OLD” SESSION: WHAT WAS WRONG?

- Student apathy
- Lack of “why”
- “Old School” Interactive
WHY NOT CLICKERS?

Limitations

- # of concurrent sessions
  - 31 sessions in 2 weeks
  - 4 librarians teaching at once
- No dedicated classroom space
- Budgetary limitations
  - Too many classes going at once

Benefits of Mobile Polling

- Free software
- Ubiquitous technology
- “New School” Interactive
- Sexy
Where do you like to get information?

Text a **CODE** to **37607**  
Submit a **CODE** to **http://poll4.com**

- **People**: 126592 (27%)
- **The web**: 126600 (60%)
- **TV**: 126604
- **Other**: 126605 (13%)
WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO GET INFORMATION?

- The Web: 65%
- People: 25%
- TV: 5%
- Other: 5%

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HOW DO YOU SEARCH?

- Google: 86%
- Yahoo: 2%
- Bing: 5%
- The Library: 4%
- Other: 3%

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HOW DO YOU SHARE INFORMATION?

- Talk about it: 205
- Facebook: 66
- Texting: 64
- Print it: 15
- Email it: 20
- Other: 38
- Total: 408
THE “NEW” SESSION

- Improved Dynamic
  - Commit to their response
  - Increased engagement
  - Initiate a discussion

- Critically examining pre-existing knowledge and habits
  - Their information seeking and usage behavior
  - No right answer, just what you do…
  - Explain why you do what you do

- Cognizant of their behaviors: now and later
DID WE MEET OUR GOALS?

- “All fun, all the time”
  - Librarian’s reactions
- Breakdown barriers
  - Student reactions
- Thoughtful integration of technology
- Learn something about our students
  - Surprises!
  - We learned FROM our students

http://www.flickr.com/photos/ntr23/796311588
WHAT’S NEXT?

- Other polls in other classes
  - Student directed learning
  - Citations: what is this a citation for?
  - Website evaluation?
- Everything in moderation
- Conferences
  - Thanks for participating!

http://www.flickr.com/photos/theunquietlibrary/3800432619/
QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU

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