“Breaking Barriers: CPD for the 21st Century Academic Librarian”

MARIE O’ NEILL
HEAD OF LIBRARY
DUBLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL
Heca Librarian’s Pilot

National Professional Development Framework for All Staff Who Teach in Higher Education

National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning
WELCOME TO HECA

THE ASSOCIATION OF RESPECTED INDEPENDENT, PRIVATE PROVIDERS OF QUALITY HIGHER LEVEL EDUCATION

HECA (http://www.heca.ie/)
Rationale for the Librarians’ Pilot

“The PD framework is flexible, inclusive and can be interpreted and adapted for: academic staff across disciplines; educational/learning technologists; educational/academic developers; research staff; library staff; support staff and students who teach others e.g., graduate teaching assistants and those who engage in peer assisted learning.”

Source: National Professional Development Framework for All Staff Who Teach in Higher Education (September 2016, p.1)
HECA Librarian Pilot Members
Pilot 6 months duration

**Anne Mangan: Expert Mentor.** Anne is the co-founder and Programme Director at the Institute of Physical Therapy & Applied Science.

**Marie O’ Neill: Head Librarian, Dublin Business School, Pilot Coordinator**

Ten librarians in total from Griffith College, Dublin Business School, Hibernia College, IBAT, National College of Ireland and the College of Computing Technology, including:

• Heads of Library
• Systems Librarian
• Reader Services Librarian
• Deputy Library (also with responsibility for institutional learner supports.)

Additionally the roles above incorporated librarians who lecture
• Robert McKenna lectures on reflective practice on the MA in Education and Training at Griffith College.
• David Hughes and Marie O’ Neill lecture on the MSc in Information and Library Management at DBS.
Goals and milestones
Reflective Practice: Librarians Applied these formats to Portfolio Entries

DIEP
- Describe
- Interpret
- Evaluate
- Plan

Or
- Past
- Present
- Future

(Robert McKenna, Librarian, Griffith College)
Teaching Aspects of Librarians’ Role-Brainstorming Session, Examples:

Head & Library Hibernia

- induction charged to oriental
  - weibors
  - mentory faculty & studus
  - validation (mentory & traying) involves presence

- student studies throughout education
General IT Quals
VLE, Intranets

Head & Library, Griffith

- Lecturer induction
- Mentoring students & faculty
- Informal support to students & staff
- Building digital capacity
- Scholarship
- Research which can impact teaching & strategy - support

Teaching Aspects

Systems Librarian

Teaching students how to access online information resources
Sharing

Technical Expertise

Teaching staff & students
Breaking in technology
Mentoring library staff
Wordpress Training Workshops
Feedback: Mine

“It is a tool that allows me to apply self reflection in order to reap the full and practical benefits of my continuing professional development activities. Additionally it provides a user friendly framework to categorise, manage and disseminate this professional development activity in a consistent and transparent fashion across the sector.

I particularly like the range and depth of the framework as it incorporates professional development activity around the self, digital capacity, professional dialogue and more. Most crucially the framework recognises the educator in all higher education professionals and their activities including the pedagogical aspects of librarianship.” (Marie O’ Neill, 2017)
Feedback: Other Pilot Members

• The PD Framework effectively **captured** the range of activities that the modern academic librarian undertakes.

• The PD Framework made HECA Librarians feel more closely **connected** to the wider educational community.

• The PD Framework increases **awareness** of librarians’ role within the wider sector but also within pilot members’ respective institutions.

• The HECA Librarian pilot reinforced the benefits of professional **reflection** in relation to PD activity.

• The PD Framework strengthened **professional collaboration** amongst HECA Librarians and also amongst other personnel in the higher education setting.
Additional Pilot Outputs

Robert McKenna Youtube Video on creating a portfolio out of Wordpress
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDv4kWd7u6U

Plan to have a communal HECA PD Portfolio blog going forward (Mary Burke, Librarian, National College of Ireland)

Collaboration with librarians in some of the Institutes of Technology who are also doing a librarians’ pilot.
Reflecting on the Pilot at the End.
The pilot itself was a significant piece of CPD activity enhancing professional collaboration, awareness of the self, digital skills etc.
E-Portfolios: Some Examples
E-Portfolio, Dimphne Ní Bhraonáin, Griffith College Library [https://dimphneblog.wordpress.com/]
Digital Capacity and Legal Research Skills classes

Date: May 30, 2017
Author: dispheblog

The lecturer for Introduction to Legal Research Skills on the LLB first year programme approached me to see if we could collaborate to improve the uptake in the student’s use of Oscola in the Introduction to Legal Skills module. Her original thought was that we run a joint workshop within the Legal Skills module to assist students in their use of engaging with electronic legal research, and to tie that in with their use of Oscola to improve their legal writing. In our initial meeting we discussed various initiatives and materials produced by other institutions and have committed to developing materials that may be used within a workshop environment.

We also discussed (both competently) the impact of the need to have some means targeted follow-up.

Following on this...

Link to PD:

From the outset I recognised that this collaboration is an excellent fit for me professionally. I have been teaching IT Skills on the LLB full time and Blended for the past two years. I was brought in house as the faculty recognised the link between IT and professional research skills and how the library supports students with their digital research needs.

The main project I developed for the IT Skills module is based on Zotero, and how it can support online legal research and Oscola referencing. This collaboration will certainly deepen my own understanding of the possibilities and demands of both professional legal research and Oscola referencing. Most of my contact with the blended students is online, following on from pre-recorded video lectures, with just one face-to-face five day seminar that the materials that we develop in this collaborative will also be of great benefit in supporting this one-day workshop.

I have been working towards mapping my own teaching of both IT Skills and Information Literacy with Joint Information Systems Committee frameworks, which recognises the impact of a proficiency in ICT skills on an individuals overall digital capacity and identity. Examining alternative legal literacy frameworks may throw my best laid plans...
Documenting the activities

I began the process of documenting activities that could be mapped to the framework on a word document, intending to add each to WordPress as separate blog posts. Given that the nature of much of the work is collaborative, and is built up over a period of time, I felt that this diary style could become unwieldy and confused as the time processed. I decided to log each activity in a blog entry as it began and update as appropriate, to allow it to read in a more holistic way.

By building on each topic over the three-month duration of the pilot study I can reflect more deeply as to how I engage with each activity from it’s original starting point. It will allow me to be more actively aware as to how each activity can be linked to my professional development.
‘Kick starter’ for the Pilot Studies for the Implementation of the National Professional Development Framework for all Staff who Teach in Higher Education.
Reading is important

This may seem obvious to a librarian! However, I have realised it more than ever, during the last few months. This is probably because I have recorded time spent reading materials.

Here is a just a selection of useful materials that have helped me during the project. They will also benefit me long after the project has ended, so thank you to everyone who provided or recommended them to me!

(Appendix 1: The Values underpinning the Professional Development Framework).

ePortfolio hub


JISC (2014) Digital literacy resources.
Am I finished?

The project has ended and I am reflecting, again! It has been slightly daunting, challenging, rewarding and interesting, though not all at the same time!

Top 10 things I have learned:

1. We all approach teaching, learning and reflecting differently and that is totally fine.
2. There is no right and wrong here, only a chance to develop and grow.
3. Librarians are an excellent peer group to work with (Thank you all, you know who you are).
4. Making time for CPD is tricky but worthwhile.
5. Reflection is a useful exercise but it is not for everyone.
6. Technology is a great enabler.
7. Start CPD considering the self.
8. Start with the student, when teaching.
9. Do not be afraid.
10. Invest in yourself!
HECA T & L
Professional Development Pilot

The HECA Library Committee was invited to take part in the National Forum for Teaching and Learning’s National Professional Development Framework for all Staff who Teach in Higher Education Pilot Project. We welcome this recognition of the teaching role of librarians. I am grateful for this opportunity to record and share the PD that I engage with.

Jane Buggle, DBS Library
https://hecapdjbuggle.wordpress.com/
The 2017 HECA Conference was held in Griffith College on 27th April 2017. Peter Cassells set the scene for the day with an introduction to the key findings of his report, Investing in National Ambition: A Strategy for Funding Higher Education (Report of the Expert Group for Future Funding for Higher Education). There is widespread agreement that the numbers of students attending third level will surge over the next ten years. Dr Dermot Douglas speculated that the numbers attending HECA Colleges will rise from 15,000 to 29,000 in the coming decade. This presents great opportunities and also significant challenges. Dr Padraig Walsh, CEO of Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) gave a fairly low level introduction to the operations of the QQI. He did, however, highlight the upcoming Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Amendment) Bill which intends to put the QQI into a more central role to monitor and oversee standards across the sector.
STUDIES IN ARTS AND HUMANITIES JOURNAL
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Posted on May 29, 2017

Studies in Arts and Humanities (SAH) Journal held the first meeting of its Advisory Board in DBS on Friday 17th February 2017. With four issues under its belt, the Editorial Board felt that it would benefit from advice on strategy and future developments. Dr Laura Rascarolli (UCC, Editor of Alphaville), Dr Manfred Schewe (UCC, Editor of Scenerie), Dr Kevin O’Rourke (DIT, Editor of Irish Journal of Academic Practice), Dr Kevin Labor (DIT, ex-Editor of Journal of Applied Social Studies), Justin Smyth (CCT), Ken Chan (Independent Library Consultant), and Fiona Cashel (Artist) attended. Conor Murphy (Editor-in-Chief) facilitated the meeting.

After the introductions, we moved on to the meat of the day in which editorial board members asked for advice on specific issues at the SAH Journal development.
More of the HECA Librarian Team
(call them to the stage for their feedback)