

Libraries Unite! Academic and Hospital Librarians' Teamwork Supports a Shared Community

Atlantic Provinces Library Association 2016

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Outline

- Overview of our shared community
- “Literature Searches in a Digital World”
 - Observations & lessons learned from this session
- Translating our experience to other libraries
- Impacting our community

Introductions

- Alex Goudreau: Health Sciences Librarian, Horizon Health Network Saint John
 - Formerly with the New Brunswick Public Library Service
- Jackie Phinney: Librarian, Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick

Do You Work in a Health Library?





OVERVIEW OF OUR SHARED COMMUNITY

Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick

- Satellite campus of Dalhousie University's four-year M.D. degree
 - Med 1 & 2 students view live lectures in Saint John by videoconference, Med 3 & 4 complete clinical rotations in Saint John, Fredericton, Moncton, Miramichi, and/or Waterville
- DMNB is a fully functioning medical school, with an Associate Dean overseeing operations as well as various support staff all on site (and a research lab)
- Library collections and services are comparable to Halifax

Horizon Library Services

- Support over 13,000 clinical & non-clinical employees of Horizon Health Network and affiliated students
 - Doctors, nurses, administrators as primary library users
 - Students from University of New Brunswick, New Brunswick Community College, Dalhousie University, Memorial University
- 5 staffed library “branches” with physical collections
 - Standardized services & resources
- Library team works virtually cross-area

Examples of our Collaborations

- Library orientation Family & Internal Medicine Residents
- Customized literature search sessions (residents, physicians)
- Interprofessional Health Research Days
- Cross-area consultations

One example of our collaboration is the teaching session we will be describing in detail today

Academic/Hospital Librarian Partnerships





LITERATURE SEARCHES IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Program Overview

- Approached by New Brunswick Medical Society to deliver a 90 minute session as part of their continuing education series
 - *“Modern literature search techniques, best smartphone apps, and reliable med info websites for physicians”*
- Delivered session in fall 2015
- Seven physicians attended
 - Two Dalhousie faculty members

Example of the Outline



- Our crafted objectives:
 - Evidence-Based literature searching techniques for clinical and research scenarios
 - PubMed & Google
 - Services offered by Horizon Health Libraries (including mobile apps)
 - Services for Dalhousie faculty members, in case any were in attendance
 - Other smart phone apps, and finding reliable medical information online for physicians and patients

Session Observations

- Surprised by the reality of practicing family physicians, how they use information resources and why
 - Benefits, limitations and comfort with technology
- Positive experience overall
 - Eye-opening for us getting to know our community

Session Feedback

Participants completed an evaluation of the program:

- What did you “like” about this program? 
- What did you “dislike” about this program? 
- Please describe any changes you are planning to make as a result of something you have learned from this program



LESSONS LEARNED

Slide 15

- 1 I added a few notes for you here to transition us into this. I realized I cover the two previous slides and next one, so I could use just a minute breather if you don't mind speaking to the transition

Alex Goudreau, 2016-05-28

Lesson #1

Know your audience



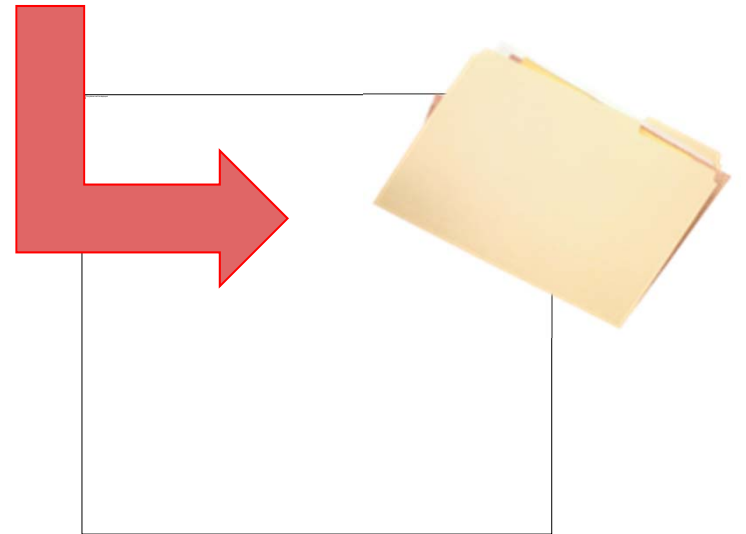
- Check your assumptions
 - Communication is key
 - Pre-session evaluation or on the spot

- Make better assumptions
 - Put yourself in their shoes
 - Know thyself

Lesson #2

Live and die by revision

- Don't overplan
- No mixed messages
- Prepared for the unexpected





TRANSLATING OUR EXPERIENCE

Translating Our Experience

We are all teachers

- Improve your skills
- Know your audience
- Feedback, feedback, feedback



Translating Our Experience

Co-teaching/facilitating opportunities

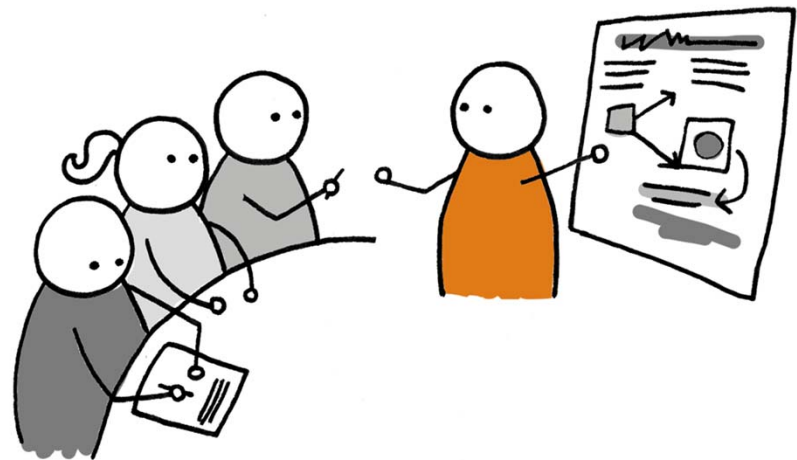
- Other perspectives, skills
- Think outside the library
- Practice makes perfect



Translating Our Experience

Outreach/continuing education

- Think inside the library
- Get creative
- Ask around





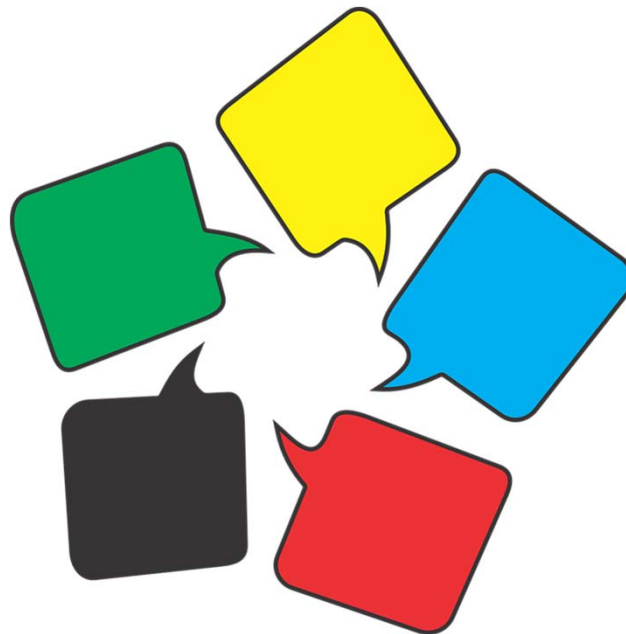
IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITY

Impacting Our Community

- Collaborating as a librarian partnership strengthens our working relationships and resource sharing
 - Institutional services/collections complement each other instead of compete
- Joint teaching leads to stronger ties to our user community; more visibility and therefore more opportunities to assist
- Assisting medical professionals to find the best evidence
→ improved clinical care → better patient outcomes

Discussion

- Can you imagine a scenario where you could collaborate with library staff from another organization?
- What will you do differently the next time you teach library users?





QUESTIONS

Thank You!

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