Making a New Type of Librarian

DLF Forum
Atlanta, Georgia
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Engineering Librarian: DeLaMare Science & Engineering Library
University of Nevada, Reno

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Background

- DeLaMare Science & Engineering Library
- 18,000 at University of Nevada, Reno
- 6,000 served by DeLaMare (4 librarians, 2 staff members, 18 student workers)
- 22,500 square feet
- 150-300 people in the library at any given time
- 1 of 3 campus libraries
  - Large, new Knowledge Center
  - Small medical school library
DeLaMare Library
But WHY in an academic library?
Our Missions

**Innovation** - We embrace creativity and flexibility to drive the cutting edge of knowledge and technology.

*creative learning spaces,*

Foster a transformative environment:

- **Innovation**: We seek to provide leadership in innovative services, technology, and facilities for the benefit of our users.

provide and teach access to resources that are relevant to our campus programs
History of Supporting Making & Innovation

Creative Projects via software

Posters

Experiments

Papers

Knowledge Connections Collaborations
Literacies beyond Information

• Digital / Media literacy
• Computational literacy
• Tactile literacy
New Breed of Students

We don’t want to graduate students just capable of getting a job.

We want to develop students who become innovative and passionate leaders.
New Type of Librarian

Less of an instructor or information guide,

More of a coach, mentor, co-captain
New Skills

• Mentoring
• Connector
• Being “on” all the time – beyond the 9-5
• Learn to be energized by chaos
• Being an active participant
• Making friends with IT
• Get comfortable with tech
  • “Tod, I think I broke the laser cutter.”
  • “Oh splendid! Now you’ll learn how to fix it!”
A Change in Priorities

How can I make the biggest impact today on my students?
Get out of your offices
I never teach my pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.

- Albert Einstein

Focus less on learning “spaces” and more on learning conditions
Get their input.
Conditions beat curriculum every time.
Conditions for

- Learning
- Discovery
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Creativity
Humans vs Zombies!
Nine tenths of education is encouragement.

- Anatole France
Be genuine.

Be interested.
...It’s Working!

Expert 3D modeling skills

Multiple students working on patent applications

Apps created in hackathons

Prototypes & businesses

Creative thinking & collaboration skills

Tactile & computations knowledge
Make Collaborations

*(this doesn’t all have to come out of your budget!)*

- Psychology Dept - Artec handheld 3D scanners
- 31 faculty across campus – Proposal for a makerspace in DeLaMare
- Engineering Dept & VPRI – additional 3D printer & laser cutter
- VPRI – PCB milling machine
Bring the faculty back to the library!

"... so it will change how we teach chemistry and how we look at molecules on a daily basis. It's also just plain fun."
Beyond the University

• EDAWN
• Generator
• Bridgewire
• Local School Districts
• The Collective.....and more
Questions?

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