Lessons Learned

Bill Garrity
http://www.william-garrity.com
Case Study—Dana Biomedical Library
Dana

• Some good features—
  – Good location
  – Lots of light

• But...
The Learning Commons Model
Determining Best Practices for Design, Implementation, and Service
Sabbatical Project 2007

Susan McMullen
Professor
Reference and Information Resources Librarian
Roger Williams University

Sabbatical Proposal
Site Visits
Lessons Learned & Observations Information Best Practices
Final Report
Readings
Born Digital

• Watch your kids!
• Faculty Co-Director John Palfrey and Faculty Fellow Urs Gasser of Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society have published Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives (Basic Books).
Politics

• Have a vision
• Be polite, but forceful and persistent
• Don’t be annoying
• Find credible champions—faculty, students
• Leaderships have multiple priorities and institutions strategies—align with those
• Call in favors
• Build syndicates, collaborations
Take-Away Messages
(in no particular order)

• Concept of October Conference
• Plan, even if $ not there yet
• Bail plan if isn’t working (UNH)
• Don’t spend too much on temp fixes
• Assessment, assessment, ASSESSMENT!
Take-Aways, cont’d

• Why assess?
  – To get information
  – To be credible
  – Don’t just ask students what they do—watch what they do
Take-Aways, cont’d

• How to assess?
  – Ask specific questions
  – Post-Its (people are in the library)
  – Blog (people aren’t in the library)
  – Town meetings
  – Library at night
  – What else?
Take-Aways, cont’d

• Build the case
  – Inured—walk in with fresh eyes
  – Slide show
  – Video
  – Overlay plans
  – What else?
Take-Aways, cont’d

• Flexibility
  – In furniture, space, services
  – Built ins

• Relax and let go—food, drink, commotion

• Visit a lot of places—not just libraries. Learn form others
  – Bookstores
  – Public libraries!

• Lots of light!
Take-Aways, cont’d

• Displays on a stick
• Whiteboard on wheels
• Construction takes a long time
• Groups often smaller than you think
• Brainstorm! Even if you’re not thinking you need a plan. Get a head start
• Know the key people
Resources

• [http://www.anthro.com](http://www.anthro.com)
Conclusion

- Meet the speakers
- Tour of Baker-Berry
- Presentations
- Evaluation (incentive)