



Announcement

Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au

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Northern Sydney Central Coast Health and The University of Newcastle, Australia are proud to introduce Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au (<http://www.eblip.net.au>), a new Australian site being developed to support library practitioners from all sectors adopting the theory of evidence based library and information practice (EBLIP). The site will include a directory of current evidence-based research projects and activities, a current awareness feed, a gateway to support from the international evidence-based library and information practice community, and pathways to help put the theory into practice including the EBLIP Toolkit (October 2006) and PEBL – a Project methodology for Evidence-Based Libraries (early 2007).

The Libraries Using Evidence Advisory Group (<http://eblip.net.au/Libraries Using Evidence Charter.pdf>) has been brought together to oversee development of Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au. This international group, stretching across Australia to Hong Kong, and as far as Sheffield, England, will ensure the site remains current, relevant, and useful to library practitioners across the world who want to make better decisions in daily practice by applying principles of evidence based library and information practice.

Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au will be formally launched in October 2006 when the EBLIP Toolkit, a fundamental component of the site, is made available.

The project to develop the EBLIP Toolkit is driven by the focused, answerable question:

“What resources/tools should be included in an EBLIP toolkit at Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au to ensure it is a resource that library practitioners across the world will find useful to support application of EBLIP? How can Library 2.0 techniques further enhance the toolkit’s usefulness?”

A draft version of the toolkit includes modules containing tools, resources, and information supporting each stage of the evidence based practice process. Features include easy access to the tools needed to find research evidence, checklists needed to critically appraise the evidence found, and support for effectively evaluating the impact of the decisions made. Keep up-to-date with development of the site at <http://eblipnetauupdates.blogspot.com/>.

PEBL – a Project methodology for Evidence-Based Libraries (<http://pebl.eblip.net.au>) is a project planning tool being developed by Lisa Cotter and Suzanne Lewis to incorporate the evidence based process into standard project methodology. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the EBLIP Toolkit as a stepping stone between the theory of EBLIP and application of the theory to practice. A call for project plans is currently open to allow examination of standard project planning tools to identify where they fall short of supporting an evidence based approach to decision making. If you would like to contribute a project plan to support this initiative, please send it to pebl@eblip.net.au. See [http://www.eblip.net.au/pebl/call for project plans.pdf](http://www.eblip.net.au/pebl/call%20for%20project%20plans.pdf) for more information.

As with project management, synergies have been identified between evidence based library and information practice and

the principles behind Library 2.0. In developing Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au, the project team is taking the opportunity to explore how Library 2.0 techniques can be used to enhance the usefulness of the site. Casey and Savastinuk consider “any service, physical or virtual, that successfully reaches users, is evaluated frequently, and makes use of customer input is a Library 2.0 service” (2006). Initial strategies identified to achieve this include use of del.icio.us (<http://del.icio.us>) to manage a dynamic current awareness feed embedded in <http://eblip.net.au> and a list of available evidence summaries; use of podcasts to introduce major issues and each stage of the EBLIP process; a Wiki to collate examples of EBLIP being modeled by practitioners; and blogs to report progress, discuss issues and enable *wisdom of the crowd* to influence ongoing development of Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au. Once the site is launched, its success will largely rely upon the participation and contribution of practitioners across the globe.

The current awareness feed is one aspect of the site that is now live. The list may be viewed within <http://eblip.net.au/> under “Recent Articles of Interest”, or by subscribing to <http://del.icio.us/rss/ebliptoolkit/current> using your RSS reader. Contribute to this feed by tagging items of interest in del.icio.us, as “for:ebliptoolkit.” Gosford Hospital Library staff will contribute to the feed through selections found by keyword alerts of web pages, blogs, and databases; and by monitoring the top research journals for each domain of librarianship as identified by a content analysis of the library and information science literature (Koufogiannakis, Slater and Crumley 2004).

When the EBLIP Toolkit is launched in October 2006, the Libraries Using Evidence Advisory Group will be calling for volunteers (via the evidence-based-libraries

listserv) to peer review the toolkit. Please advise toolkit@eblip.net.au if you would like to participate in this process.

Visit and bookmark Libraries Using Evidence – eblip.net.au today!

Koufogiannakis, Denise, Linda Slater, and Ellen Crumley. "A Content Analysis of Librarianship Research." Journal of Information Science 30.3 (2004): 227-39.

Works Cited

Casey, Michael E., and Laura C. Savastinuk. "Library 2.0." Library Journal 131.14 (2006): 40-2.

