



University of the
West of England

Information Literacy seminar – 30 June 2006

At the last Reading Strategies Implementation Group it was suggested that library and faculty staff run a seminar to discuss the wider implications of information literacy, i.e. how various skills are taught and delivered to students, how they are managed and assessed across the various levels within an award, and how the university might take this forward in a strategic way.

In view of this, the following programme has been devised, and will be on offer to UWE staff on 30 June 2006.

Aims

- To support the work of academic staff in implementing reading strategies, since information skills are fundamental.
- To explore understanding of information literacy in its widest sense.
- To raise the importance of IL within the University and to inform strategic development.

Motivating factors

- The Library's recent LIRG/SCONUL Study on the impact of electronic information services on learning, teaching and research highlighted a need for a higher level of information literacy amongst students
- Discussions with faculty staff have emphasised the fact that librarians and academics both contribute to developing aspects of information literacy but that this would be more effective through a planned and co-ordinated approach
- The increase in e-learning and use of Web resources puts a high premium on information literacy, especially the skills of evaluating and managing information
- There is discussion about what constitutes a UWE graduate, and information literacy could (should?) constitute a part of this.

Programme for the day

Time	Activity	Person
9.45	Arrival and refreshments	
10.00	Introductions and aims	Stewart Green, Faculty of Computing Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

10.15	Keynote speaker: Information literacy – overview (questions)	Judith Keene, University College Worcester
11.00	Introduction to skills based approach : The SCONUL Seven Pillars model for Information Literacy	Dianne Nelson, UWE Library Services
11.20	Carry out exercise: Filling in form adapted from SCONUL 7 pillars model for IL	All
11.40	Discussion (in groups)	All
12.10	Plenary	
12.30	Lunch	
1.30	The Relational approach to Information Literacy	Stewart Green, Faculty of Computing, Engineering and Mathematical Sciences
2.00	Discussion (in groups): Consideration of the two approaches – 7 pillars and relational. Record on flip charts.	All
2.40	Refreshments	
3.00	Plenary: Outcomes from group discussions Next steps	Jackie Chelin, Malcolm McEachran and Jason Briddon, UWE Library Services
3.45	Close	

Outcomes

From the morning session – to create a tool that faculty and library staff can use to audit/identify information literacy skills across programmes.

From the whole day:

- to inform the Reading Strategies Implementation Group and Teaching, Learning and Assessment Committee of current thinking/awareness of IL across the University and to advise on how/whether to develop a strategic approach;
- to raise awareness within faculties of the need to plan the provision of information literacy in order to ensure that all students attain the appropriate level of information literacy whatever programme they are on.

Location

Room 5D6, Frenchay Campus Library.