Workshop 25

Title: Collaborating in the Development and Integration of

Learning Literacies: staff, student and policy

approaches

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Distance Education; University of Manchester

Session Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, delegates will be able to:

- Likely benefits and challenges of collaborating across professional groups to integrate learning literacies.
- Important differences and commonalities among some of the major learning literacies, to facilitate informed co-operation.
- Principles and methodologies for collaboration across different professional groups concerned with development and learning literacies
- Particular ways in which academic developers can work with colleagues from different professional groups to support improved student learning literacies

Session Outline

The workshop will help participants to identify principles, methodologies and specific ways in which they can work with colleagues from other professional teams to further develop and embed a range of learning literacies in the policies, curriculum and practices of the institution. It will build on the results of workshops on collaboration in development of information literacy at LILAC Nottingham 2019, and on collaboration between academic and learning development at SEDA Belfast 2019. The workshop will be an opportunity to discuss the development of learning literacies by considering the specific role of academic developers and how this compliments learning developers and librarians who took part in previous workshops.

Professional groups and functions considered will include; alongside academic development; library, learning technology, learning development, quality assurance, student support, senior management, individual academics and programme leads and teams.

Three development 'lenses' will be adopted to explore how each of the facilitators have approached this exploring the role of supporting academic staff, providing direct student support, and adopting a policy within an institution. Short case studies of approaches taken by three institutions to develop literacies in a coordinated way will be shared: The

MA in Academic Practice at City University of London, 'My Learning Essentials' at the University of Manchester, and the development and implementation of policy for Information literacy at QMUL. Use will also be made of results from a recent project by the University of London Centre for Distance Education on Integrating Information Literacy.

Each facilitator will provide a brief account of how some of these professional groups and functions relate to each other. Literacies concerned with information, careers and the digital domain will be used as examples.

The bulk of the workshop will draw out the experience of the participants, and give the opportunity to formulate and share their own ideas and action plans, building on the ideas offered. Examples of discussion topics are developing policy, working with course teams in design and operation, working with students, and partnering with other student support functions. The aim will be to share experiences, identify obstacles and difficulties, and plan ways forward and immediate actions. The results will be published.

Session Activities and Approximate Timings

The session will operate as a 'world café', with participants moving between the tables. A Padlet will be set up, and participants will be asked to add their ideas during the workshop. This will create an open record for use beyond the workshop. The facilitators will undertake plenary review of the issues raised and ideas expressed. Approximate timings are set out below:

10 mins Introductions, agenda & scene setting

5 mins Case Study 1: City University (academic development lens)
5 mins Case Study 2: Manchester (student development lens)

5 mins Case Study 3: QMUL (policy lens)

45 mins World Café exercise, with rotations, so that each participant spends 15

minutes looking through each of 3 development lenses – academic development, student development and policy development. Padlet content will be produced and immediately shared in each rotation.

15 mins Plenary Review of World Café discussions 5 mins Individual reflection & action planning

Preparation before session

We shall have three short case studies, a note on learning literacies, and other resources available in a Google drive. We will briefly discuss these in the session, but it would be helpful if participants scan these ahead of the session:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=13SP52 XkB81Rj2RabyeVp6P6v9ZERcNy

References

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