EMBRACING CHANGE: ADAPTING AND EVOLVING YOUR DISTANCE LEARNING LIBRARY SERVICES TO MEET THE NEW ACRL DISTANCE LEARNING LIBRARY SERVICES STANDARDS

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

• Gain an understanding of the proposed changes to the standards
• Learn from EKU Libraries’ experience
• Gather ideas on how to meet the new standards
• Share our experiences
**EKU VITAL STATISTICS**

- Enrollment of 16,015 as of the 2015 spring semester
- Approximately 1,500 of those students are enrolled at regional satellite campuses
- Just under 2,000 of enrolled students are pursuing degrees that are being offered fully online, and are not just taking individual online courses
- Only five years ago that number was a fraction of that 2000
WHO’S AN EXPERT?... NOT ME!
CURRENT STANDARDS

• In place since 2008
• Why update?
• What holes did it have that needed patching?

http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/guidelinesdistancelearning
THE NEW STANDARDS... YEAH!!

- Who did it?
- What's good? (in general)
- What's bad? (in general)

https://distancelearningsection.wordpress.com/new-standards-for-distance-learning-library-services/
CURRENT UPDATE

• Update from Harvey
• What’s next?
THE HEART OF THE MATTER!

• Blurring of lines
• Technology is the common denominator
• A student is a student is a student…
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES
PART I, FOUNDATIONS

• Emphasized the Access Entitlement Principle
• Introduction: a Living Document
• Intended Audience
• New Definitions
  • Computer literacy
  • Digital Literacy
  • Distance Learning Librarian
  • Embedded Librarian
  • Distance Learning Library Services
• Changing Nature of Distance
PART II, FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENTS: A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR THE DISTANCE LEARNING COMMUNITY

• Now separated from the “Foundations” section
• Affirmed the importance of additional financial support to meet the needs of additional online students
• Direct Human Access
PART III, SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

• Management – functions of distance librarian may be dispersed, but proper oversight must be maintained

• Two New Sections
  • Change
  • Globalization
ADVICE ON IMPLEMENTING THE NEW STANDARDS
A FEW THINGS WE HAVE TRIED

Distributed Service Model
Dedicated “DEPO” Position
Library Express
Virtual Reference Service
ADVICE FOR THE FUTURE

• Include distance education in all strategic planning and assessment. Make it part of day to day library planning
• Get away from the monolithic “Distance Education Office” model and adapt a distributed service model adapted to the needs of the institution
• Have a group or individual tasked with thinking about distance learning
• Remember, a student is a student is a student
• Be flexible and forward leaning
• Look for free or cheap tools and resources
FORECASTING THE FUTURE...

- Demands for seamless and instant service and delivery
- More back end work for libraries, increased demand for easy use by students
- More blurring of lines
- Need to be ready as admins ask us to step up
- Budgets shrink, expectations rise
THANK YOU!

Questions?

Comments?

For a copy of this presentation, contact me at brad.marcum@eku.edu