Research Sprints as Engagement Tool for Librarians & Faculty

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Introduction to Research Sprints
Buy-In: Start at the Top

- Big Boss
  - Supervisor
    - Colleague
    - Colleague
  - Supervisor
    - Colleague
    - YOU
Applicants

Partners in research and teaching

Diverse disciplines:

- Journalism
- Communications
- Geology
- Molecular biosciences
- Music education

Photo by LeAnn Meyer
Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Establish organizing committee

Identify potential team members

Photo by LeAnn Meyer
A Sprints Week
Staffing + Scheduling

Assembled 3-5 librarians for each team
  • Liaison
  • Specialists
  • Internally-facing staff

Pre-Sprint meetings to prepare

May 22 - 25 (after Spring semester ends)

Four to five day Sprint, 8:30am - 4:30pm

Some meals provided
Space + Technology

Reserve Sprint team space
Breakout space reserved
White boards/display monitors
Power cords
Printer
Laptops
Budget

Breakfast

Afternoon snacks / beverages

End-of-Sprint celebration

Technology support
Challenges

Fatigue

Time

Level of faculty participation

Plan, plan, plan
Project Examples
Kansas
Peter Bobkowski, Journalism

**Goal:** Make course materials for required Journalism course more affordable and adaptable by other instructors; improve retention of enrolled students

**End Product:** Outlined an open textbook to support Journalism 302: Infomania and redesigned the course to align with new course materials
Goal: Create an authentic scientific research experience and to teach scientific literacy to non-science majors

End Product: Designed online laboratory modules for Geology 121 that incorporate information literacy, data management and data literacy; wrote learning outcomes with assessment connected to each module
Goal: Commemorate the death and memory of Emmett Till online

End Product: Created a website and smartphone app that uses GPS and Google’s Field Trip app that allows users to see and hear facts of the case and stories from witnesses as the user explores the places where Till’s case played out
**Goal:** Preserve and share research project “Greek Rhetoric in Situ” - decades of work and massive files

**End Products:**
- Built a dynamic website to showcase research
- Deposited 3D and other multimedia files into the University Digital Conservancy
Goal: Create a map of the hidden & lost waters that lie below the Twin Cities

End Product: Literature search and map of the rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands based on land surveys that date back to pre-1900, submitted to DRUM and ArcGIS Online
Minnesota
Karen Donohue, Management

Goal: Create a secondary research tool for the Masters in Supply Chain Management program’s capstone class

End Product: Designed a “choose your own adventure”-style website with Drupal Lite, used for summer course
Benefits of Sprints
“The experience getting to know librarians and the libraries in a more specific and personalized way has really changed my orientation to the university - made me feel more embedded and given me a much greater sense of the way the libraries can support my scholarly pursuits.”
Strong Ties with Faculty

Photo by LeAnn Meyer
Successes

DRIVING TOMORROW
Our ten-year plan to lead and innovate

Leverage Our Research and Curricular Strengths to Address Grand Challenges
Successes

- Assuring Clean Water and Sustainable Ecosystems
- Fostering Just and Equitable Communities
- Enhancing Individual and Community Capacity for a Changing World
- Advancing Health through Tailored Solutions
- Feeding the World Sustainably

Solving the Grand Challenges of a Diverse and Changing State, Nation, and World
Making Sprints Work
Where you Work
At Your Institution

Created by Gan Khoon Lay from Noun Project

Created by S B
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Created by Kidilledon from Noun Project
At Your Institution

- Who do you need to talk to in order to do Sprints?
- Who could lead and contribute to this initiative?
- How can you connect to units outside the library?
- How would you promote Sprints to your faculty?
- What are the barriers? How could they be overcome?
Research Sprints Toolkit
Thank you!

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