

Title of Session: Targeting Librarians - Web 2.0

Moderator: Lesley Farmer

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Room: Cybrarians Group

JaniceAG joined the room.

LesleyF: Hi, Janice! Here to discuss web 2.0 and libraries 2.0?

JaniceAG: Yes!

LesleyF: Great! Where are you chatting from?

JaniceAG: La Mesa-Spring Valley School District. We met at the CUE SIG

KathyBu joined the room.

LesleyF: oh, right! Glad you could make it, Janice AND Kathy!

BjB : hi, Kathy

KathyBu: Hi!

LesleyF: I wrote a tech column on Tapped In for the CSLA Newsletter, which should be coming out soon.

BjB : cool! Can we get a copy?

KathyBu: Excellent! Maybe we'll get more cybrarians.

LesleyF: Janice and Kathy, did you get a notice from CUE about their conference podcasts? They are an example of web 2.0 and how libraries might tap into that technology.

KathyBu: I did but I haven't had the chance to view anything.

JaniceAG: Yes, I checked out a few of the podcasts.

LesleyF: the URL, which you can view too, BJ, is
<http://www.infinitethinking.org/cuelive/>

LesleyF: What did you think of them, Janice?

JaniceAG: Well, it does lose something from being there in person...but I liked that you could get the flavor

LesleyF: Did you think that they made good use of the medium -- video, or was it mainly talking bodies?

JaniceAG: It seemed like talking bodies, but I only watched two so that may not be representative

NoraO joined the room.

BjB : welcome, Nora

JaniceAG: I would like to try doing some short podcasts that walk new library staff through routine procedures.

NoraO: Hi

LesleyF: I think the one that would be most interesting to share with other librarians and classroom teachers would be the Student Tech Showcase. Then folks could see what students are doing with tech.

LesleyF: Hi, Nora; here to discuss web 2.0 and library 2.0? And you hail from where??

NoraO: I am just trying to learn about this web site

LesleyF: for fun or for a class?

NoraO: class

LesleyF: good -- which program?

NoraO: Cal State San Marcos

NoraO: a tech class for teachers

LesleyF: Great -- just down the road from me (CSU Long Beach).

NoraO: yes

LesleyF: I think the concept of web 2.0 can be extended to classroom 2.0 as well as library 2.0.

LesleyF: What is everyone's understanding of Web 2.0? A starting point for our discussion.

BjB : good place to start!

KathyBu: I have only heard the term.

NoraO: Not familiar, but I like to learn

LesleyF: how about you, Janice?

JaniceAG: I'm very familiar

BjB listens to Janice

LesleyF: so share, Janice...

JaniceAG: I would love some tools that allow patrons to decide their own library programming

JaniceAG: For example, making their own reading lists - kind of like that video service where they send you the next one in the mail

JaniceAG: I love del.icio.us for social bookmarking

BjB : my understanding of web 2.0 is that the tools are interactive and allow an individual or group to edit the pages

JaniceAG: that is correct - like a wiki

JaniceAG: Or patrons could run their own lit clubs

JaniceAG: I also see the use of blogs as a possibility

LesleyF: exactly: interactive, two-way communication.

LesleyF: There's a sense that all people contribute to the content.

JaniceAG: Yes, using RSS feeds, patrons could be automatically notified when new books come to the library that they might be interested in

LesleyF: Amazon is an early example of web 2.0 where readers could submit their reviews of items.

BjB : I assume this changes the nature of a librarian as a 'provider' of services

LesleyF: Ok, I'm done. That's the bottom line, BJ.

BjB . o O (maybe others have some input?)

BjB : it's not just librarians...its all educators

BjB : teachers are not the sage on the stage...they are facilitators of learning

JaniceAG: Yes, because students want to be a part of creating

BjB nods

JaniceAG: Creating an online presence

KathyBu: But librarians have always been facilitators not just providers.

MaureenB: It is a wonderful thing to see things happen when you let the reins go.

JaniceAG: I think you are both right.

JaniceAG: Does anyone else think that the searching and personal tagging of information is the future of library individualization for patrons?

LesleyF: instead, the librarian/library provides a learning environment, which includes a variety of resources and teaching/learning venues. And including student work.

KathyBu: And I assume the librarian is one of those resources?

LesleyF: absolutely. And you can monitor what is added to the library's digital coffers

KathyBu: So how does 2.0 enable that reality?

KathyBu: Is this Open Source software or what?

LesleyF: Open Source is source coding that is freely available to all.

JaniceAG: I think 2.0 can be summed up as interactive technologies that allow visitors to interact with data; either posting, editing, or deleting what is there.

LesleyF: We're transitioning from the web 2.0 to its implementation as library 2.0

LesleyF: so let's review examples of web 2.0 and how it plays out in the library:

LesleyF: RSS feeds, blogs, wikis, social networking, folksnomonies, photosharing sites, what else?

JaniceAG: A great example is wikipedia, which is a great starting spot for discussing the great advantages pitfalls of using 2.0 technologies - they change because people have input

KathyBu: What is a folksnomonie?

LesleyF: folksnomies are like subject headings -- but the everyday person creates them instead of trained librarians

JaniceAG: Other examples might be podcasts, social calendar, personalization of Google or homepage, MySpace (not sure what to call that!)

LesleyF: good examples, Janice

LesleyF: are you folks knowledgeable about tagging?

BjB : not I. I know the idea, but haven't done it

JaniceAG: Does anyone else think that the searching and personal tagging of information is the future of library individualization for patrons?

KathyBu: Personal tagging for what purpose? So the person can locate it again or to add metadata to a record?

LesleyF: yes, there's an interesting effort where librarians provide standardized subject headings, AND users can link to the library by "tagging" materials the way they want to ...

LesleyF: AND other readers/viewers can see both the library's and the other community members's tags (e.g., homegrown subject headings).

LesleyF: Yes, exactly, Kathy.

LesleyF: so it becomes like a tag "cloud"

KathyBu: Could you please give an example?

LesleyF: Remember that when developing a web page, one can "tag" it. So this is a spin-off of that activity.

JaniceAG: One way I see this playing out is that patrons can create a favorites list and when they save it to the list (with their own tags so they can remember it) it says "27 other people saved this item" and you can click on that and find out who else really liked it and also see what else they are reading on that subject.

KathyBu: Especially of the tag "cloud".

LesleyF: It would work like this. Each person can have a MyLibrary profile feature. They use a library barcode and pin number to manage "subscriptions" to library news, etc., and

they can personalize a web page with content and tags to library materials (sort of like del.icio.us) so they can find them again.

KathyBu: Where is all this input stored?

LesleyF: OTHER patrons can also view these pages (think of the Amazon site that includes other people's lists). So patrons can find an item/book using the library's tags/subject headings AS WELL AS other patrons' tags/subject headings.

LesleyF: It's stored in the library's directory... which brings up the obvious issue of space.

LesleyF: The technology is already there in terms of safeguarding the files so that the tags don't contaminate the existing records.

JaniceAG: I wonder how much space is needed by del.icio.us? It must need massive storage.

LesleyF: And I would think that librarians could have access in order to monitor inappropriate tags -- although the labor intensity might be daunting...

JaniceAG: Who would decide what is inappropriate? Wouldn't that be censorship?

LesleyF: Social bookmarking doesn't take much space, actually, since they're just doing links, not storing all the content itself.

LesleyF: Well, if it's pornographic, and it's being stored on the library's server, then the library would be held responsible....

LesleyF: the first amendment does NOT cover pornography.

JaniceAG: LOL

JeffC wonders if it uncovers pornography.

LesleyF: that's why judges wear robes, Jeff...

LesleyF: But your comments DO raise the issue of web 2.0. How much do we trust our school community members, from students to teachers ...

LesleyF: if you're going to say that the library welcomes interaction and contributions to its information/holdings, then you have to establish policies and procedures that are fair.

LesleyF: BTW, other web 2.0 "things" are podcasting (which we mentioned earlier) and gaming and simulations/virtual reality spaces.

JaniceAG: I think that librarians probably trust the teachers and students, but administrators and school boards certainly do not.

LesleyF: yes, school boards will need to be educated and reassured.

LesleyF: so we're seeing that a whole new level of awareness, policies, and practices -- as well as paradigm shift on "flatter" teaching/learning roles need to be addressed when thinking about library 2.0. Hopefully, people will not be naive -- nor will they are scared off...

LesleyF: Unfortunately, I have to go to a university focus group on technology strategy planning (which might include social networking issues), so I'll need to leave. Thoughts for next month's topic? Want to continue on this one?

KathyBu: Yes, I want to think over some of what you've said and formulate my questions.

JaniceAG: Yes, I am interested in learning more...

LesleyF: sounds good. Let's put in a "holder" for web 2.0/library 2.0, part II, and folks can email me questions/issues (lfarmer@csulb.edu).

GaryML: I wasn't here for the podcasting conversation...

NoraO: I also have to go. Thank you for the great information

LesleyF: Does that work for everyone?

KathyBu: Thanks Janice for your helpful input.

JaniceAG: Nice to meet you!

KathyBu: Ok!

GaryML: nevermind, I'll ask another time

LesleyF: or you can email me directly, Gary

LesleyF: some good points raised today; thanks!

GaryML: okay, I just wanted to know how many books, articles, etc. are moving to this type of medium

GaryML: but I'll email later

KathyBu: Bye.

LesleyF: there's a huge discussion in academia about that, Gary, and many issues therein..

LesleyF: see you, folks!

LesleyF left the room (signed off).