Nov 30th, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**NELIG Meeting - November 30, 2007**

New England Library Instruction Group

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NELIG Meeting  
November 30, 2007  
Mt. Wachusett Community College, Leominster, MA  
NELIG / ITIG Joint Minutes

Heidi McCann, co-chair of NELIG and Nancy George, co-chair of ITIG, welcomed 40 attendees to the joint program “Get to Know Library 2.0.” After Heidi thanked Mt. Wachusett Community College for hosting the joint event, Nancy George introduced Elizabeth Thomsen of NOBLE (North Of Boston Library Exchange).

Morning Presentation – Elizabeth Thomsen - Get to Know Library 2.0

Elizabeth spoke about libraries and the evolution in information exchange during the last century. The twentieth century was characterized by a concentration of resources, with a distributive network to the consumer. This was a legacy of the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century. A revolution in the late twentieth century and early twenty-first century has resulted in huge changes in how information is conveyed and used. Elizabeth sees three major themes emerging: the web as platform, structured data, and personal participation as a consequence of widespread Internet access.

The Web platform provides interactive services, structured data provides the ability to mix data from multiple sources to create unique content, and widespread participation has given rise to the “prosumer.” Consequently, there has been a significant shift from the private sphere to the public sphere, with widespread collaboration, opportunities to act and react, and reputation management systems (where the most valuable rise to the top) of Web resources. Wikipedia exemplifies this new trend of Web 2.0, as do Flickr, Youtube, Google Maps, Google Earth, and a multitude of other social networking sites. Libraries will need to become accustomed to providing these new web-based tools, even if unproven, at a quicker pace than libraries have in the past. Since users are now comfortable in their new role as evaluators and collaborators, they are available and willing to test new information services even when librarians would consider these service options still in beta mode. Librarians should jump in and embrace this change. There are specific sites on Web 2.0/Library 2.0 just for librarians such as Library 2.0 on Ning or the Library 2.0 Reading List on Squidoo to help librarians become more comfortable with these new social tools.

Workshops

After Elizabeth’s presentation, the attendees were provided the opportunity to participate in two sets of workshops run by several facilitators, where participants learned to use Web2.0 tools.

First Set of Workshops
- Blogs – Susan Goldstein, Associate Professor, English, Mt. Wachusett Community College
- Podcasting – Christine Drew, Manager, Instruction & Outreach, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Facebook – Sara Marks, Instruction Services and Reference Librarian, Fitchberg State College
- Wikis – Betsey Dick, Circulation Supervisor, Mt. Wachusett Community College

Second Set of Workshops
At the conclusion of the second set of workshops, attendees gathered together briefly discuss the programs they had seen. The next meeting of NELIG is planned for February 22, with the theme being faculty collaboration. It is hoped that this meeting can be conducted using multiple sites with software to link all participants.

After the conclusion of the joint NELIG/ITIG meeting, the NELIG program planning group, co-chaired by Laurie Sabol and Sara Marks, met briefly to discuss the next steps in planning the annual program in June 2008. A wiki will be used to facilitate communication among the planners.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Klare
NELIG Secretary
2007/2008