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From Passive to Active: A New Model for Library Orientation

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From Passive to Active: A New Model for Library Orientation

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OBJECTIVE:

The goal of this project was to transform a passive library display at a Graduate Medical Education Fair for new residents into a more interactive experience. The project centered on a poster featuring library resources and services and an evaluative survey.

METHODS:

At the 2016 orientation fair, librarians assumed a more active role while staffing the library table. They reached out with eye contact and welcomed the residents:

- To help evaluate a new orientation poster for a library project (10 sec.)
- To read through the poster (1 min.)
- To complete a survey “evaluating” the format and content of the poster (1-2 min.)
- To ask any questions about library resources and services (1 min.)

BACKGROUND:

Every summer, new residents enter postgraduate medical training at the University of Vermont (UVM) Medical Center. As part of their orientation, they participate in a Graduate Medical Education Fair that includes staffed tables from several different departments providing support for residents. UVM Dana Medical Library has participated at this fair since 2012.

Typically, the library orientation table was staffed by 1-2 librarians and featured a traditional poster displaying the “library as space” along with a variety of paper handouts about library resources and services. On average, only 25-40% of new residents stopped by the library table. In addition, feedback from the residents was equally disheartening ... little of the library info from the fair was used or retained.

However, in 2016, the library orientation for new residents was completely redesigned to incorporate an active learning activity centered around a simple poster.

Quickstart Guide to

DANA MEDICAL LIBRARY

CLINICAL RESOURCES



- DynaMed Plus
- UpToDate
- ClinicalKey
- Visual Dx
- Electronic Textbooks
 - e.g. Harrison’s Online
- Mobile Apps

RESEARCH RESOURCES



- 5,000+ Journals
- Databases
 - Cochrane
 - PubMed / Ovid
 - Web of Science
- EndNote
- Research Guides
- ScholarWorks @ UVM

SERVICES



- Expert Literature Searching
- Interlibrary Loan
- Journal Publishing Assistance
- Personal Research Assistance
- Systematic Review Support
- Training Workshops

WELLNESS



- Dana Summer Book Reading Program
 - Popular Works
 - Classics
- Bailey/Howe Video Collection
 - DVDs/CDs
 - Streaming Video

LOCATION



- On the Concourse between UVMMC and the Given Building
- Look for the Larner Learning Commons

ACCESS



- 802-656-2200
- danacirc@uvm.edu
- <http://library.uvm.edu/dana>
- Hours
 - M-Th: 7:30-11:00
 - Fri: 7:30-8:00
 - Sat: 9:00-8:00
 - Sun: 9:00-11:00

Poster Survey (please circle your answer)

1. Were you able to read through the whole poster in a short time?
YES
No, not really

2. Was this poster informative about library resources and services?
YES If YES, what did you like about the poster?
NO If NO, what would you change about this poster?

3. Can you list one important thing about the Dana Medical Library that you learned from this poster?

4. What did you not see on this poster that you have questions about?

5. Are you interested in learning more about the Wellness resources?
If YES, please ask Gary or Nancy

Name _____ Program _____

Thank You!

Poster Survey Form

RESULTS:

Since interactions with residents at orientation fairs were not tracked prior to 2016, it is impossible to measure the impact of the redesigned library activity poster. However, anecdotal evidence and survey results suggest that the poster was a success:

- >85% of poster surveys were returned
- 100% liked the poster format and its effectiveness in introducing the library
- Poster encouraged meaningful conversations between residents & librarians
- Survey highlighted resources and services not currently offered

CONCLUSION:

With the success of the library poster at the Graduate Medical Education Fair, librarians plan to:

- Continue use of this poster-driven learning activity at future orientation fairs
- Evaluate its effectiveness
- Make modifications when necessary
- Use it as a template for library presentations at other events

