Getting First Years off to a Strong Start

Dr. Alan Bearman
Dean of University Libraries

Keith Rocci
First Year Experience Librarian

Washburn University
Topeka, Kansas
Presenters:

Dr. Alan Bearman
- Tenured history professor
  - London native
  - Kentucky, Murray State, Kansas State

Keith Rocci
- Academic Librarian
  - Arizona Native
  Arizona, ASU, NAU
CHANGE
Washburn University:

1. Municipal University
2. Enrollment: 7,300
3. Founded in 1865
4. Topeka, Kansas
5. Historic Commitment to Access
“Do we need a physical library at Washburn University?”
The university adopted information literacy and technology as a general education learning outcome.
PERSONAL LIBRARIANS
Started with one proactive, intrusive personal librarian in 2008 and have seven in 2012
It became more about the students and less about the “stuff” in the building.
Personal instructional librarians use the seven principles of good practice in undergraduate education as a guide.
Some of the goals of the personal librarian program:

1. Help students connect to their academic abilities

2. Help students use library resources effectively

3. Help students develop efficient and effective information search strategies

4. Help students develop critical evaluation skills, so they can determine relevance and reliability of information for their needs.
Instructional design is an important to the success of any session or when you are working with a user. Plan and have a plan!
Evaluation and assessment are important to the process.

Figure out what is working and build upon it.

Did it work? Did they learn? What can I do differently?
Questions?