**Things unlimited: developing the prototype thing**

The elements of the prototype thing are based on evidence from the conversation with library staff on process.arts, and earlier research carried out in the department (to be added) which revealed that the main barriers to adopting or developing more skills in digital information literacy are:

* Lack of time
* The volume of available information, instruction and the proliferation of tools
* The feeling of entitlement – that this is a part of your role, and that time spent on developing skills in this area is a legitimate activity

The aim is to provide a resource that filters information and presents an initial highly relevant focus. (Relevant to the role of the librarian, and within our own and department and University)

A survey carried out at the Library Services conference on 24th September revealed the following information:

Library Services staff:

**Don’t know about:**

Web based tools for managing references (16)

Presentation tools (11)

OER/sharing docs (8 each)

**Not relevant to some roles**

Blogging (10)

Social media (7)

Web based tools for managing references (4)

**Heard of, would like to know more**

Presentation tools (28)

Using OER (25)

IPR issues (25)

**Already confident users**

Social media (31)

Blogging (25)

Sharing documents (19)

**Priority areas for skills development**

Web based tools for managing references (17)

Using OER (14)

IPR issues (12)

These will become the first things.

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| --- | --- |
| Prototype thing: template | |
| What is it? | Definitions, explanation “from the beginning…” |
| Try it... | For example:  Signing up and initial use  Using: practical exercise |
| Use in the Library | Are we using this – who and how |
| Other libraries | Existing resources, examples of good practice (note if CC licences available)  Add your resource |
| In the University | What is going on in the University? |
| Info skills messages | Map to Sconul digital information literacy  What are the key messages for various groups?  (Library staff, Students, Staff, Research staff etc)  Pros, cons, issues |
| Follow up | More information  Key contacts |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Prototype thing: Web based tools for managing references : scoping | |
| What is it? | Theme: organising information  Definitions, explanation “from the beginning…”  champion video – what’s the idea ? |
| Practical exercise | For example:  Signing up with Mendeley or Zotero and initial steps  Use with Summon, library catalogue |
| Use in the Library | Are we using this – who and how  use with Summon and e-library |
| Other libraries | Examples of good practice (note if CC licences available)  (Some excellent comparison tables) |
| In the University | What is going on in the University?  Policy, or not  Champions of Zotero, other?  Video – why I use xxx (student, lecturer) |
| Info skills messages | Map to Sconul digital information literacy chart  What are the key messages for various groups?  (Library staff, Students, Staff, Research staff etc) |
| Follow up | More information  Youtube videos  Links – other resources  Key contacts, champions in library, e-learning, in house development |

Jess Crilly, October 2012