

Being information literate: A part of the student's life long learning process?

Learning, Innovation and the Use of Information

1st - 2nd April 2008
At Aalborg University Library, Aalborg University,
Denmark

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ASB library development initiative: Integration between library and learning

1. Information literacy including methods for searching and handling information in the learning process and personal knowledge management (PKM)
2. Presentation of the library resources in relevant learning contexts
3. Presentation of specific and relevant tools for supporting learning processes

- More details at http://www.asb.dk/lib/vejledning/naar_du%20_skriver_opgave.aspx

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ASB library cooperates closely with Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University:

1. Research
2. Education

<http://www.asb.dk/about/aboutus/org.aspx>

Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University:

- Cooperation with private companies and businesses – and also with public organizations

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"Innovation is not only about new products. Companies and public organisations are beginning to wear the innovative glasses too as of innovation of business-models! Strategy, management, development of competencies, it-systems, teamwork and organizational culture."

(Our translation)

Darsø (2008).

- Innovation and development are *driving forces* i modern knowledge based companies and organisations

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Academic libraries in the knowledge society

- Academic libraries play an important role supporting the research, teaching, administration and study at universities
- Academic libraries keeping up with modern technology and – in doing so – being part of the virtual learning space of universities offer online library service and support and also give access to considerable amounts of online information resources

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Is the development of academic libraries knowledge based?

- Libraries themselves must work development – and knowledge based in order to live up to playing an important part in the knowledge strategy of universities
- ASB library / the initiative of integration between library and learning leans on **theoretical thinking of library and information science**

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Information literacy at the ASB library

- Methods to identify (search/find), select (evaluate), structure (use and analyse) and communicate on the basis of information – in other words to:
- Make sense / learn from information when knowledge is constructed

This apply to learning when studying at university as well as to life-long learning

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The concept of learning at the ASB library

"... learning is fundamentally conceived of as an integrated process consisting of two connected processes which mutually influence each other: Firstly, the interaction process between the learner and his or her environment – an interaction which may take place by direct contact or be indirectly brought about through various media ... Secondly, the internal psychological and elaborative process which leads to a learning result."

(Our underlining)

Illeris (2004).

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Personal Knowledge Management at the ASB library

Inspiration and cooperation with

- University of California, Anderson School of Management (Jason Frand)
<http://www.anderson.ucla.edu/>
- Royal School of Library and Information Science (Trine Schreiber) <http://www.db.dk/english/>
- Aarhus School of Business, ASB Research group for knowledge communication (Peter Kastberg)
http://www.asb.dk/about/departments/isek/forskning/fo_rskergrupper/videnskommunikation.aspx

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▪ Personal Knowledge Management

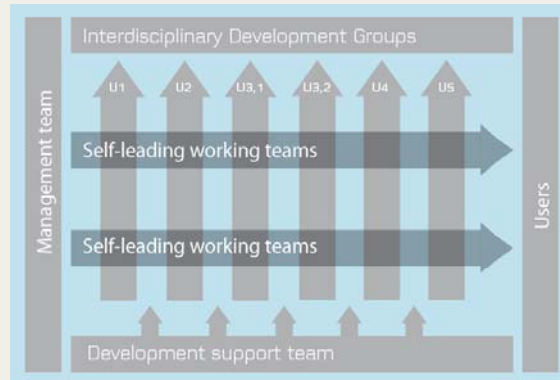
"Personal knowledge management (PKM) expresses the understanding that the individual needs to reflect on the personal learning process in response to the demand of society. Therefore PKM suggests a range of techniques which can be used to support this reflection."

Kastberg (2007).

Seminar (in English) at the Royal School of Library and Information Science

<http://www.db.dk/kurser/temadage/f2008/pim.asp>

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Being information literate: A part of the student's life long learning process?

How is the theoretical framework put into practice at ASB library

- Form and content in teaching - based on theories
- Collaboration across the academic setting at ASB
- Dialogue with the students
- Information seeking as a process

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ASB Library meets the students continually

1. When they start at the University
2. When they are at the first year
3. When they are writing bachelor thesis
4. When they are writing their thesis

- And of course everyday at the library ☺

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How are we present in the day-to-day life of the student?

- "Book a librarian"
- Contact persons
- Thesis meetings
- Short courses (article search and Refworks)

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The first meeting with ASB library

A short pamphlet with focus on:

- ASB library as a learning environment
- The importance of being information literate
- ASB library as an active part of the academic setting
- ASB library as a fellow partner during the student's individual learning process

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The library as an integrated part of the first yeas studies

In cooperation with the associate professors at ASB, ASB library teaches the students during their first year at ASB

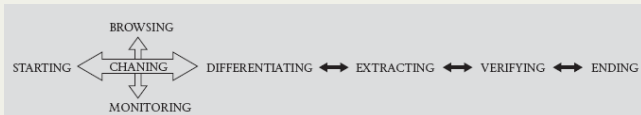
In teaching the library has focus on:

- The content: Information seeking as a process and a part of the curriculum
- Linking the information resources to the academic context of the students
- Dialogue with the students on their own terms

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Theoretical thoughts:

Ellis (1989): Concepts, the students can use, when they are searching for information



Kuhlthau (2004): Searching for information is a process which involves feelings

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Didactic aspects

We ground the lessons on dialogue and involvement of the students

We do this by:

- Cases where the students present their results in class
- Workshops which implies "homework"

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"Refworksbloggen" as example of an experiment in our process-based teaching

- Follow-up on the course
- Supplement the course by news and other features in the program
- Open up for a two-way dialogue and questions
- Knowledge sharing
- Being visible on the web and among ASB-bloggers

What Farkas (2007) call "Blogs to supplement workshops" and "Subject Blogs" (p. 31-34).

See more (and give us a comment on):
<http://refworksbloggen.weblogs.asb.dk/>

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Future thinking: Workshops and presence among students

Workshops:

- The students own subjects as the focal point – gives us more motivated students
- The students must reflect on subjects and keywords

Follow the students:

- Better ongoing integration by being part of the curriculum – e.g. guidance on information seeking in continuation of the academic/professional guidance as provided by the professors

New technologies:

- More integration between IT-department and library
- Use of social technologies

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Literature:

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