PANEL: EMBEDDED LIBRARIANSHIP

EMBEDDED ONLINE LIBRARY SUPPORT IN ONLINE COURSES AT MARINE INSTITUTE

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Abstract:
The concept of Embedded Librarian is not a new one. It arose from a recognized need to support distance students. “Embeddedness” varies from one academic library to another, ranging from a simple “help” button on a distance instruction page to librarians actually involved in teaching and marking within the course. At the Marine Institute the concept of “Embedded Library Support” was introduced as a pilot project to give library support to the many new online courses being developed. The uniqueness of Embedded Library Support is that all library staff at Dr. C. R. Barrett Library at Marine Institute are involved in providing reference support. With this in mind, a “role” was created in the learning management system called “library support.” The librarian and staff take turns monitoring the online courses that are being supported. While this project is still in a pilot stage, faculty and student reception has been positive and the effect on staff workload has been positive.

Keywords: Embedded librarian, distance education, marine science.