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Aspirational Equity: An Approach to Online Workshops by the University of Washington Libraries

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Aspirational Equity

An Approach to Online Workshops by the University of Washington Libraries

Hello!
WE ARE UW LIBRARIES STAFF

Joanne Chern

Melissa Henry

Charlotte McGrew

Elliott Stevens

Perry Yee

AN AGENDA

STAGE SETTING

The first part of this presentation will provide context to online teaching and learning at the UW Libraries and describe our lived experience before and during the pandemic.

ACTIVE SHARING

The second part of this presentation will be active in chat. We will do a collaborative thinking exercise as we envision what the future holds in a post -pandemic world.

In an effort of full transparency, this session is **NOT**…

⦿ A how-to guide to build an online workshop.

It **IS**, however…

⦿ An honest and open discussion about our experience.
⦿ Our story and perspective.

ONLINE FIRST, EQUITY FIRST

an idea, a philosophy, a practice

"

a cohesive vision of online and hybrid learning which adopts a transformative mindset regarding remote support, equity, and sustainability.

A values - driven framework

EQUITY

Highlights the disproportionate impacts of the shift to online on user communities. Prioritizes issues of accessibility, inclusion, and openness.

CONSISTENCY

Ensures that users have high - quality, coherent, and reliable online experiences through all Libraries interactions and communications.
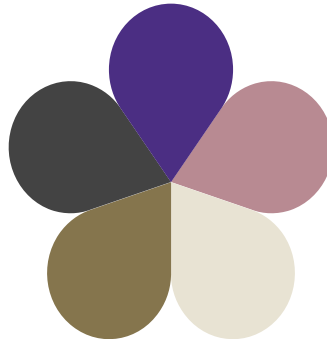
SUSTAINABILITY

Strengthens collaboration, scalability, and streamlined workflows. Mitigates increased workloads, silos, and opaque processes.

OPPORTUNITY

Encourages and rewards experimentation with ways of supporting research and learning, communicating impact, and forging partnerships.

COMMUNITY

Using a core lens of user experience. Recognizes the importance of online community, engagement, and connection to student success and retention.

- Storytelling Fellows
- Graduate Student Research Institute
- Digital Scholarship Summer Immersion
- Scholars' Studio
- Participatory Design

We will discuss how each of these programs operated before the pandemic and how it transitioned in pandemical times.

STORYTELLING FELLOWS

Background

This is an innovative, hands-on program designed to highlight the interests and accomplishments of UW graduate students, using digital -storytelling skills and technologies.

PRE-PANDEMIC

- Online workshops with synchronous and asynchronous components
- Designed for graduate students
- Incorporated ideas of accessibility into curriculum

DURING PANDEMIC

- Online first, equity first was already the foundation so needed few updates
- Attempted to incorporate greater focus on anti -racism

BACKGROUND

An online, summer workshop that ran for its 4th year in 2020. The goal of the workshop was defined as increasing research confidence and creating collaboration between grad students and subject liaisons.

graduate student research institute

SUMMER 2020

RESEARCH SMARTER, NOT HARDER

PRE-PANDEMIC

- Content delivery and discussion occurred via Canvas
- Two synchronous week - long sessions with flexible due dates

DURING PANDEMIC

- Experimented with communication, introducing Slack instead of Canvas discussion boards as a tool
- Included optional synchronous session
- Nearly doubled in size

BACKGROUND

A summertime, multi -track digital -scholarship program for faculty, staff, and students where participants start podcasts, digital books, and digital exhibits

DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP SUMMER IMMERSION

PRE-PANDEMIC

- In person in UW Libraries spaces
- For faculty, staff, and mostly grad students
- Two tracks (podcasting, digital publishing)
- Big presentations and coffee chats
- $10

DURING PANDEMIC

- Online with combinations of Zoom, Slack, Google Drive
- For faculty, staff, grad students, and some undergrads
- Three tracks (podcasting, digital publishing, digital exhibits)
- Big presentations
- Free

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BACKGROUND

Scholars' Studio is a fun, informal event that features 10 rapid-fire ignite-style presentations (5 minutes each) given by graduate students and postdocs doing research on topics related to an interdisciplinary theme.

PRE-PANDEMIC

- Ostensibly tri-campus, but mostly Seattle campus
- Held physically in the UW Libraries Research Commons
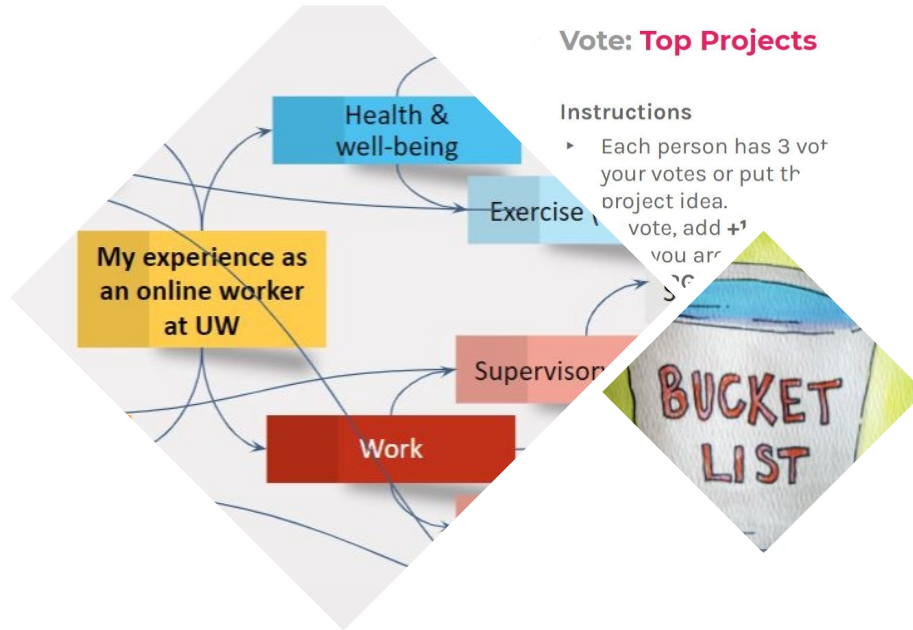- No hybrid model; streaming had been requested in the past but no urgency

DURING PANDEMIC

- Open to tri-campus
- Held completely online with recording options
- More resources available (e.g., asynchronous viewing of recordings, live captions)
- Potentially more sustainable for future Scholars' Studios
- Consider: digital divide

BACKGROUND

Surfacing needs of online students from the Libraries. Online students as co-designers. Online-only from its inception (the second of a two-part Participatory Design series-- the first was in person.)

PRE-PANDEMIC

- Zoom and Google Docs - chosen for their familiarity and simplicity
- 10 online synchronous sessions
- design activities, discussions, and share outs
- preemptively targeted to online-only students
- already recruited these students at the time of the pandemic start

DURING PANDEMIC

- Set to begin at the start of April
- Tools, technologies, and methods didn't change much -- worked well.
- What did change? Additional considerations for capacity, well-being, and burnout, given the circumstances surrounding COVID-19

a
post
pandemic
world

COLLABORATIVE FUTURE PLANNING

an open chat conversation and thought exercise

1

What ways are we not meeting the needs of students?

2

What inequities surfaced that weren't apparent pre-pandemic?

3

Did the pandemic create those inequities?

4

Did the pandemic exacerbate those inequities?

Thanks for
pondering
the future
with us.

ANY QUESTIONS?

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- Check out our workshops!
  - Storytelling Fellows Podcasting: https://libstory.github.io   /
  - Podcasting for UW Libraries: https://sites.uw.edu/libstory/
  - Digital Video Storytelling:
    https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1271259
  - GSRI 2020:https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1418583
  - DSSI 2020:http://training.ds.lib.uw.edu/dssi20/

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- ⊙ Presentation template by <u>SlidesCarnival</u>
- ⊙ Photographs by <u>Unsplash</u>