CILIP Health Libraries Group Conference 2016

Scarborough, 15-16 September

Key learning points

- Most memorable talk: From a patient's perspective. Lyn Daniel from SWYP NHS FT talked about Expert Patient Programmes Courses (EPP), and how health librarians can help provide evidence for patients with long term conditions. It was very valuable to hear the difference volunteers are making as trainers.
- Introducing the Library: Producing an introductory video for a multisite library service. Many points in common with Leeds Libraries for Health (where we have been working on creating our own video) such as the nature of the service (multiple sites across multiple trusts) and our users not knowing what services and resources they have access to. I learnt a lot about what producing a promotional video for a library service involves, particularly how time consuming it is, but mostly had some of my beliefs as to what would and would not work for us reinforced. For example, not including the library staff even though Philip Barlow's team did feature in the video to mirror Trust staff diversity to excellent effect, in our case it really would just make the video date too quickly. Other learning points: ensure everyone has access to the same basic information; make the video less "instructional" and more "inductional", less lecture-like and more welcoming.
- Getting to know my colleagues in the health information sector. Whilst the CILIP conference in July represented a great opportunity to network with colleagues across all sectors and learn about their experiences, good and bad, as someone still fairly new to the NHS I found this conference great to meet other health information professionals specifically. I also gained an understanding of how HLG is striving to support health information services in other sectors, and of how academic health libraries do not seem to feel included and support by the group at the moment.

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