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2012 & Beyond

Afternoon Oral Bites

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LibGuides: helping students to navigate the information highway

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Abstract:

In past years, feedback from students has highlighted levels of confusion with regard to finding relevant subject resources, both in paper and electronic format. At the same time, there has been an awareness from both academics and Library and Learning Innovation staff, that students are not taking full advantage of the wide range of resources available via University funded Library subscriptions.

In early 2011 the Library Collections Development team undertook a pilot of LibGuides, software designed to provide access to subject resources within a flexible structure. Already used by over 2,000 libraries worldwide, LibGuides has proved to be a valuable tool in increasing the visibility of the essential books, ebooks, journals and databases for subject areas. Each LibGuide can be accessed via a desktop PC, laptop or mobile device.

After a successful trial of 7 subject guides, LibGuides was launched at the beginning of the academic year 2011/12 and via the LibGuides homepage and individual URLs, 45 subject LibGuides are now available. By early November the sites had already achieved nearly 50,000 hits.

This presentation aims to highlight the success of the project so far, from the perspectives of students, staff and Library and Learning Innovation.

For further information please see www.libguides.hull.ac.uk