Aligning content and technologies to the new reality of learning outcomes and teaching excellence

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Higher Education
Library Technology

The new role of the library in teaching and learning outcomes

June 2017

Briefing paper

Ken Chad & **Helen Anderson**

Excellence in teaching

"The importance of 'high quality teaching' in Higher Education (HE) is becoming increasingly emphasised both in the **United Kingdom (UK) and abroad .**....Excellence in teaching has become entrenched in higher education policy and in the educational strategies of academic institutions, and increasingly linked to the performance and assessment of these institutions"

Higher Education Academy (HEA), 2016

Teaching Excellence Framework

The TEF is important UK legislation for Universities and may ultimately align excellence in teaching with university income (student fees)

Teaching excellence was not measured directly but instead by a number of 'outcomes' namely graduate employment, student retention, and student satisfaction

TEF is therefore important to universities as it will impact their 'bottom line'

The foundations of teaching quality

"The foundations of high quality teaching ..include effective course design, evidence based assessment practice, and cross-institutional innovation in active learning pedagogies. Teaching quality is supported by sophisticated use of data to inform practice, robust mechanisms to ensure curriculum currency, and recognition and reward of excellent teaching".

Nottingham Trent TEF submission

Role of the library?

"The findings of research carried out for the Booksellers Association (BA) by Linda Bennett and Annika Bennett point to a **troubling level of ignorance** amongst some senior administrators (those responsible for developing the TEF submission) about their own libraries and, by default, **about the ways in which libraries can play an important part in the quality of teaching and learning**"

TEF: what does it mean for academic libraries? By Maxine Melling and Margaret Weaver. Insights – 30(3), November 2017

Strategy

"It is increasingly necessary for libraries to find new ways of being mission critical to their sponsoring institutions"

Rick Anderson, Associate Dean for Collections and Scholarly Communication at the University of Utah

Where will the money come from?

Substantial funding *is* available
in response to good value propositions

What can the library contribute to teaching & learning outcomes?

- Buildings
- Resources
- Skills
- Technology
- Data

Value Proposition

Buildings

"Pedagogy is the driver for the changes in library design"

Ann Rossiter, Director SCONUL

£26 million

"The new library will provide our students with a state-of-the-art, high-quality study environment"

Stella Butler, Leeds University Librarian

Value Proposition

"Additional capital investment of £5.3m in the last three years has been focused on a **complete refurbishment of the libraries .. and a new replacement library** … …. **As a result, student use of library learning resources and facilities has significantly incr**eased."

Nottingham Trent University TEF Submission

Value Proposition

Resources

Library resources

"If there is a failure to demonstrate [the] value [of library] resources there is a risk of a lower institutional priority being placed on them and a resulting reduction in funding, with those core users being disadvantaged over time"

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Learning resources

"Our .....learning resources are acknowledged within both the HE sector and professional associations are being amongst the best in class."

Nottingham Trent University
TEF 2 Year Provider Submission

Innovation - overcoming the "textbook taboo"

"At a time when it is increasingly necessary for libraries to find new ways of being mission-critical to their sponsoring institutions, this aversion to textbook provision seems to me increasingly self-defeating"

Academic Libraries and the Textbook Taboo: Time to Get Over It? By Rick Anderson. The Scholarly Kitchen 7 July 2016 https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2016/07/07/academic-libraries-and-the-textbook-taboo-time-to-get-over-it
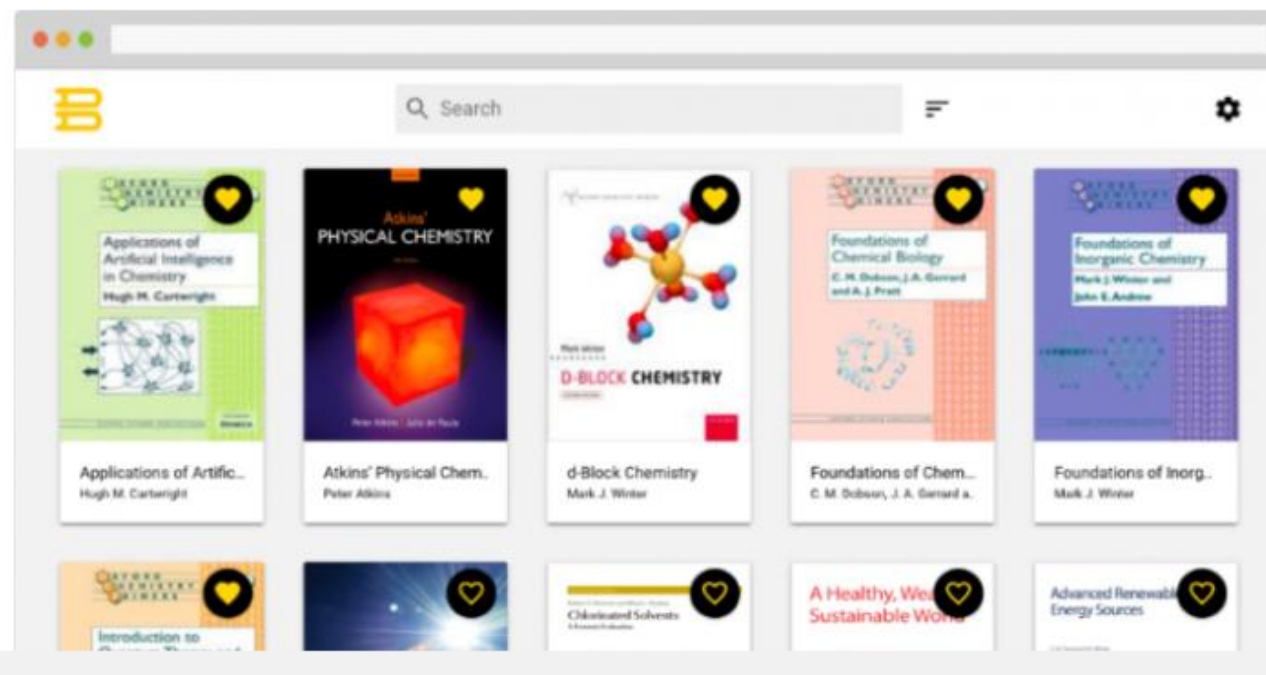
"It's great to be launching this partnership with Bibliotech. It was set up by students who saw the potential of technology to provide online access to thousands of textbooks and learning materials, and gives a truly affordable option for many students, who would otherwise struggle to pay for these resources"

Caroline Mackay, licensing manager at Jisc Collections

The Spotify of the textbook world takes off as Bibliotech is go

1 August 2017

As libraries look to widen access to core texts, how can they make this affordable to both universities and students?

£2 million invested

———

"University of East London steps into future by providing the latest Samsung devices and eBooks to thousands of first-year students"

"We are delighted to be putting support directly in the hands of our students and providing them with a state-of-the-art learning platform for the duration of their studies"

Professor John Joughin, UEL Vice-Chancellor

£2 million invested

Middlesex University free books for everyone

"Money was allocated by the University Executive. This was new money which had not previously been allocated either to Schools or the Library"

"The Library is responsible for administering the project"

UKSG webinar Q and A

Resources

"[The] 'Your Books, More Books' scheme guarantees that if students need a book to support their studies then the library will either already have it or do its best to get it within three working days. This initiative won the 2015 National Acquisitions Group Award for Excellence"

Nottingham Trent University
TEF 2 Year Provider Submission

Textbooks

"The advent of the TEF provides another incentive...to raise the topic of institutionally produced textbooks higher on the agenda" Lara Speicher, Publishing Manager, UCL Press

The Challenge of Open Access Textbooks. Jisc [Blog] 9 May 2017.
https://etextbook.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2017/05/09/the-challenge-of-open-access-textbooks/

Library vs. learning resources?

"There is a burgeoning area of overlap between the 'learning resources' which academics wish to install in their VLEs, and the digitised learning resources which libraries are making available" John McColl

Virtuous learning environments: the library and the VLE. MacColl, J. Program: electronic library and information systems, 35(3): 227-239. 2001. https://research-repository.st-andrews.ac.uk/handle/10023/1825

The Evolution of the Digital Learning Experience

"It doesn't take a genius to figure out that the adoption of technology in the learning sphere is mostly determined by its ability to produce enriched and personalised learning experiences"

The Evolution of the Digital Learning Experience. Amy Donelan. Kortex Blog 30 Nov 2017

http://www.kortext.com/blog/the-evolution-of-the-digital-learning-experience/

Digital learning resources

"what these texts also offer students is the opportunity to increase their engagement with the material and work in a collaborative way with their lecturers and peers. ..devices allow students to be constantly connected to their friends; sharing ideas and messages between one another.

Digital learning resources allow students to create working groups, in which they can share notes between themselves and with their lecturers.

By empowering students to access their materials in a flexible, responsive way, lecturers may get more out of the sessions they provide with a classroom that is better engaged with the course materials."

Widening student participation through technology. John Donovan Research Information 20 November 2017

VitalSource

Innovation
The BOOC

Books as Open Online Content (BOOC)

"These innovative 'living books' feature articles of various types, in a non-linear thematic presentation that offers readers the option to select and sort subjects they wish to read. With long and short articles, blogs, videos, audio and Storifys, these 'books' grow over a period of time." UCL Press

Academic Book of the Future
BOOC (Books as Open Online Content)

About BOOC	Introduction: Academic Book of the Future BOOC — Samantha J. Rayner	Open Access Book Publishing and the Prisoner's Dilemma — Marcel Knöchelmann	The Academic Book of the Future and Its Readers — Silvia Pirola	Academic Book Discovery, Evaluation and Access: A Report — Anna Faherty	The Academic Book in the South: Conference Report — Stephanie Kitchen	The (Open) Academic Book of the Future — Sarah Lippincott
American Mathematical Society: Publishing Maths in the USA — Robert Harrington	What is the Point of the Academic Book? Part One — Rebecca Lyons	What is the Point of the Academic Book? Part Two — Mari Shullaw	What is the Point of the Academic Book? Part Three — Tim Hitchcock	What is the Future for the Academic Book? — Sussex Research Hive	Peer Review in Practice — Dorothy Butchard, Simon Rowberry, Claire Squires, & Gill Tasker	The Future of the Academic Book in the USA
My Acts of Reading — Andrew Prescott	Students and the Digital Edition: A Polemic — Stephen Gregg	Open Access and Academic Publishing — Ian Lovecy	Open Access: A Personal Take — Alastair Horne	Towards an Ethics of Circulation: A Manifesto in Tweets — Haidy Geismar	Creative Writing Theses: Discoverability and Open Access — Rebecca Lyons	What is the Future for the Academic Book? BSECS 2016 Storify
What is the Future for the Academic Book? — James Baker	The Academic Book in the South (Storify)	What is the Point of the Academic Book? BSECS Panel Storify — MH Beals	Lincoln's [Im]Possible Constellations — Paul Moore	Lincoln's [Im]Possible Constellations — Catherine Grant	Lincoln's [Im]Possible Constellations — Karen Savage	Lincoln's [Im]Possible Constellations — Mikey Murray
Publishers Address the Academic Book of the Future	What is the Future for the Academic Book? – Video recording of a panel — Caroline Bassett et al	Academic Publishing in the South: The Ghanaian Experience — A Ofori-Mensah	New Directions, New Models — Abhijit Gupta and Padmini Ray Murray	Panel Discussion: Academic Authorship and Knowledge Production — S Kitchen et al	Panel Discussion: The Role of Libraries and Archives — Gillian Evison et al	Final Panel Discussion & Concluding Comments — Ola Uduku
Panel: The Role of Libraries and Archives — Nureldin Satti	The Academic Book of the Future Project Film	Panel: Academic Authorship and Knowledge Production — Sari Hanafi	Panel: The Role of Libraries and Archives — Shamil Jeppie	Panel: Academic Authorship and Knowledge Production — Sukanta Chaudhuri	Panel: Academic Publishing in the South — Walter Bgoya	

Library vs.learning resources?

As part of strengthening their value proposition we expect to see more libraries take a holistic view of the management, discovery and delivery of a wide range of learning resources. At the moment many valuable resources stand apart from the conventional library collection

Value Proposition

Skills

Developing Professionals of the Future

- Knowledge of digital pedagogies and being able to engage with students using a range of technologies, tools and platforms

- Big Data knowledge – both management of and methods

- Repository management and digital asset management

- Social media data analysis

- Advocacy and demonstrating the impact of information.

Robinson L, Developing Professionals of the Future. Views from experts in 'library schools', SCONUL Focus, 2017 (67), 5–6:

https://www.sconul.ac.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2_18.pdf

Leadership

"Strong digital leadership is a key feature of effective educational organisations and its absence can be a significant barrier to progress. The digital agenda is therefore a leadership issue"

Rebooting learning for the digital age: What next for technology-enhanced higher education? Sarah Davies, Joel Mullan, Paul Feldman. Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) Report 93. February 2017. http://www.hepi.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Hepi_Rebooting-learning-for-the-digital-age-Report-93-20_01_17Web.pdf

Leadership

"[Library] not seen as a strategic concern other than in terms of future resource requirements" – and "there was a lack of detailed awareness of the proactive contribution of library leadership"

Career advice: librarians 'must defy stereotypes' to climb ladder.By Matthew Reisz THE. 2 November 2017
https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/career-advice-librarians-must-defy-stereotypes-climb-ladder

Value Proposition

Technology

Value Proposition

Reading list systems have achieved a high adoption rate because they are seen as providing high value.

Indeed some university libraries pay more for their reading list system than their ILS.

By "investing our efforts into developing a genuinely effective, interactive and responsive reading list system" librarians at the **University of Birmingham are aiming to "transform the teaching and learning experience for students and academics"**.

Aligning resources to courses

"our resource list management service ensures that learning resources are aligned with academic courses"

Nottingham Trent University
TEF 2 Year Provider Submission

LibTech & EdTech

All this suggests a trend for library technology and educational technology to merge. We will certainly see reading list systems, VLEs and digital textbook platforms better integrated and perhaps even subsumed into common *learning services platforms*.

The new role of the library in teaching and learning outcomes. By Ken Chad & Helen Anderson. Higher Education Library Technology (HELibTech) briefing paper (No. 3). June 2017

Value Proposition

Data

Value Proposition

"The world's most valuable resource is no longer oil, but data.

Smartphones and the internet have made data abundant, ubiquitous and far more valuable"

"Jisc is spending more than £1 million over two years to provide academics with "everything you require to track student learning activity so that you can improve retention and attainment".

Data helps makes a difference

Nottingham Trent University Student Dashboard

Nottingham Trent's learning analytics initiative is designed to 'increase retention, improve attainment and increase belonging within the course community'

Engagement scores for each student are calculated from Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) access, library usage, card swipes and assignment submissions

Data Analytics

The value of data analytics will surely be a key driving force. Data from reading lists and digital textbook platforms combined with information from other institutional systems on student retention and academic performance will produce powerful insights. Such analytics will be invaluable to institutions, publishers and intermediaries as they look at new ways to deliver content.

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Conclusion

"By the time the next TEF submissions are drafted, it is to be hoped that there is not an academic registrar in the country who can claim ignorance of the direct role his or her library service plays in ensuring teaching excellence."

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For more detail see:

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