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Automatic Assessment of Library Resources Utilizing LibGuides

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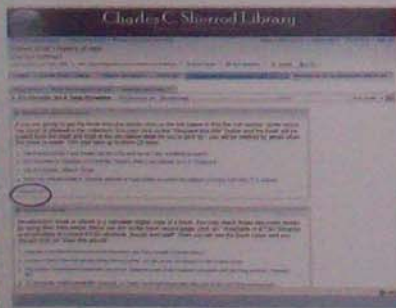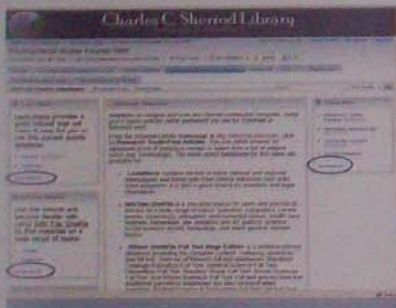
Automatic Assessment of Library Resources Utilizing LibGuides

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Each box in the LibGuide has a "comment" function and students are encouraged to send us feed back about the resources in the guide.

Our acquisitions policy emphasizes requests from faculty and students as a primary source for collection development. "*University Libraries faculty consult a variety of collection development tools, including suggestions for purchase by faculty, staff, and students, to add material of high quality and in accessible formats to the collection.*" One of the ways we get feedback is through the comment function on the LibGuide. Students are encouraged to use this avenue when they are first in...

The process of creating the LibGuide is the process of evaluating the subject collection.

LibGuide = subject specific guide in a web format for a class.

1. The LibGuide for a specific class is created by a librarian in consultation with the professor teaching the class.
2. The LibGuide includes links to the e-books, online databases, and print materials in our library. Also included is information on plagiarism, scholarly vs. popular magazines, RefWorks, and interlibrary loan.
3. In order to create the LibGuide with specific links to pertinent materials the librarian reviews the library's resources in detail (you are assessing the collection as you are creating the guide) for instance,
   - Reviewing the ebooks available on topics related to the course syllabus
   - Reviewing the library databases that would support the class assignments
   - Reviewing websites for accuracy and timeliness
   - Identifying outdated resources or gaps in collection, and passing recommendations to acquisitions.
4. Each class has a course management site through Desire2Learn (D2L).
5. The LibGuide is attached to the D2L site though it's URL.
6. An analysis of the collection for an accrediting body can begin with the LibGuides you have already created for the courses in the department.
7. Using LibGuides to evaluate subject areas can involve librarians who would not normally be involved in acquisitions.

You can use the statistics as a springboard to evaluate the adequacy of the resources the students have available to them through the library. If an item has low usage you can consult with the professor to see if it should remain in the LibGuide or be deleted. Is there a better resource that should be included? Does the library need to purchase newer editions, new resources such as ebooks or databases that better sup...