#### **DePaul University**

#### From the SelectedWorks of Jessica Alverson

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#### Leveraging Campus Partnerships and Creating Library Advocates

Jessica Alverson, *DePaul University* James LeFager, *DePaul University* Kate Daniels, *DePaul University* 



### **Audience Poll**

Please go to this URL and vote!

http://bit.ly/dpupoll

# Achieving Collaborative Advantage: Leveraging Campus Partnerships and Creating Library Advocates

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**Kate Daniels** 

DePaul Faculty Instructional Technology Services

### **Session overview**

- Background
- Collaborative projects to-date
- Benefits
- Blueprint + tips

# A firsthand account



"Alan Young". (March 22, 1962). AP Photo Archive.

# The myriad settings....

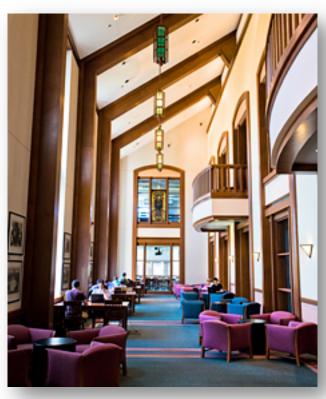






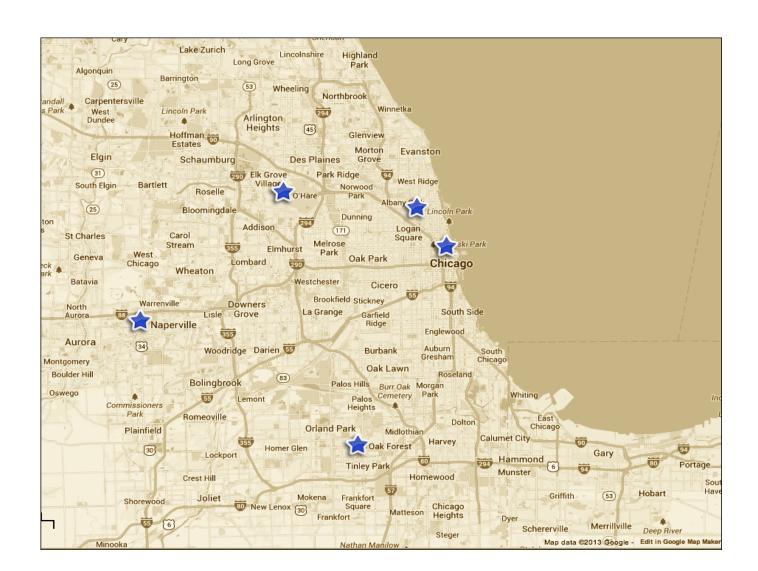


# The players.... DePaul University Library + FITS

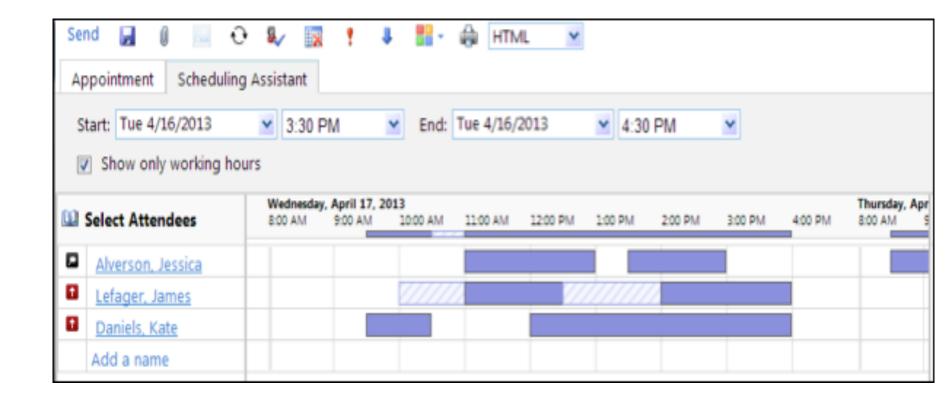




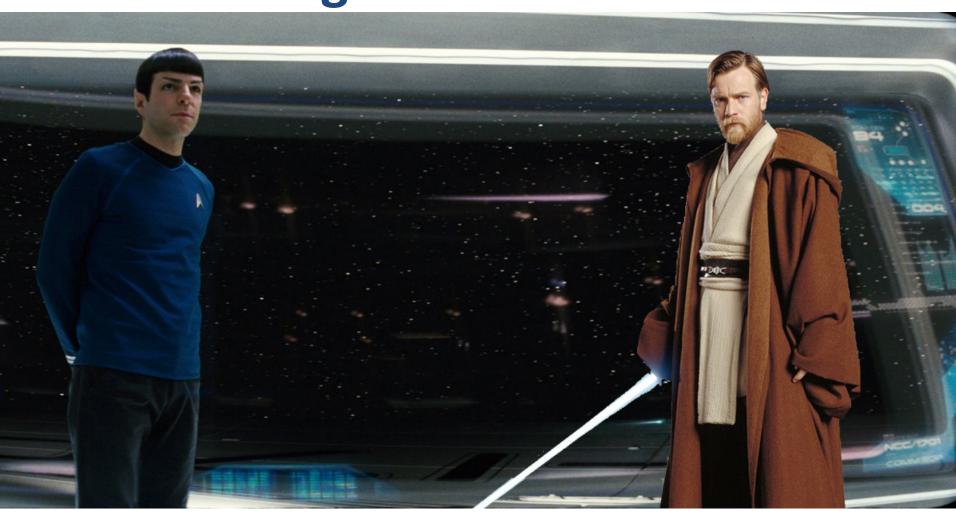
# Challenge: Varied geographies



# **Challenge: Different schedules**



# **Challenge: Different cultures**



# Challenge: And some history....



Photo from: http://www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de/en/

# The start of a relationship....



http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2009/11/the berlin wall 20 years gone.html

# Collaboration can be a pain in the ass.

--Mintzberg

# Why is collaboration important?

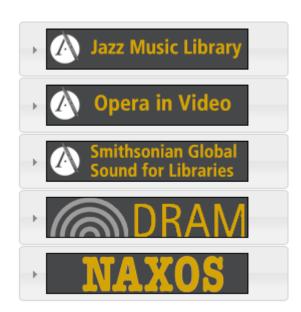
Rather than solidify alternatives and lock us into either/or situations, collaboration allows us to avoid unnecessary compromise or domination, and to use integration and synthesis to **invent** third ways.

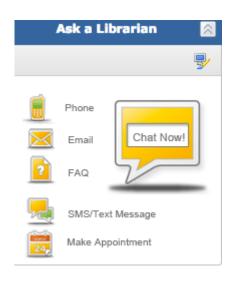
--Mary Parker Follett (as paraphrased by Mintzberg, et. al)

# Library widgets in D2L

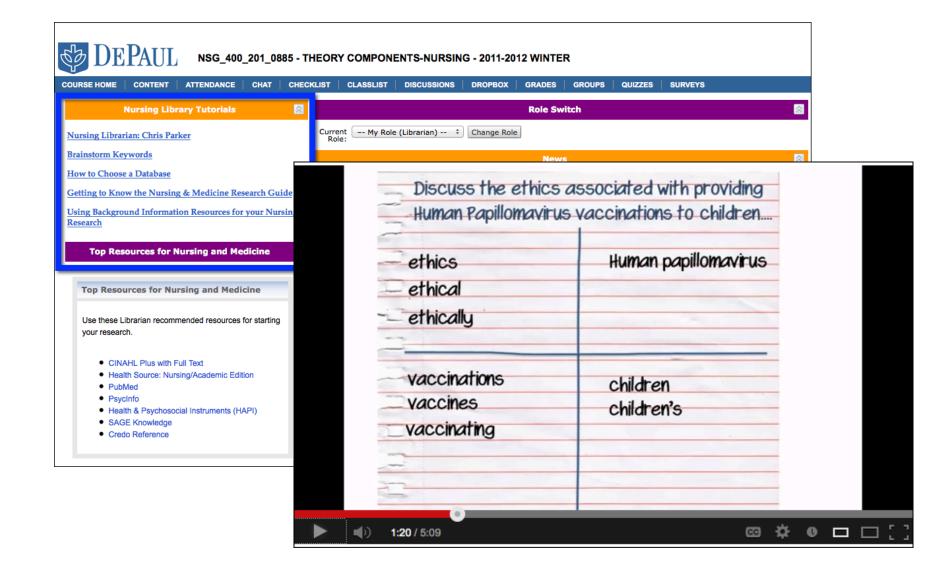
We have created a series of library widgets that allow instructors to add library tools and content to their course pages in our learning management system - D2L.







### **Embedded online tutorials**





The Mobile Learning Initiative started as a working group featuring members from different departments to explore mobile solutions and support faculty interested in integrating mobile into their courses.

#### Mission

MoLI identifies and recommends effective mobile learning solutions to DePaul faculty.

In addition, MoLI evaluates select implemented solutions and contributes resultant research to the field of mobile learning.

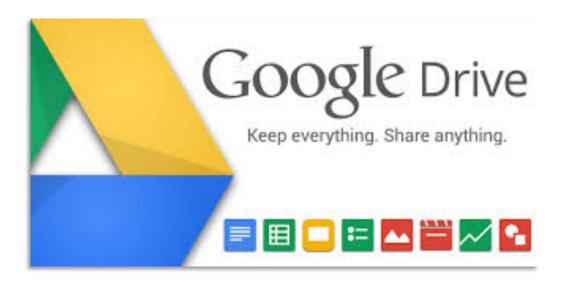


### Goals

- Make DePaul's online learning materials as accessible as possible on mobile devices
- Use mobile devices to create new kinds of learning activities
- Provide resources to help instructors use mobile devices to enhance their teaching and their students' learning
- Participate in global discussion on mobile learning

# How me Gi Works

- Meets bi-weekly
- Initiatives and projects drive agenda
- Uses collaborative technologies







### DEPAUL Teaching Commons

Course Design

Home > Technology Resources > Mobile Learning

#### Technology Resources ▼

Desire2Learn (D2L) ePortfolios@DePaul

D2L vs. Digication

Campus Connection

Course OnLine (CDM)

Clickers

Blogs & Wikis

Games & Simulations

Surveys & Forms

Classroom AV Equipment

Plagiarism Detection

Technology Training

Technology Support

Teaching Online

Mobile Learning

#### **MOBILE LEARNING**

#### WHAT IS MOBILE LEARNING?

The term "mobile learning" can be applied to any learning activity that utilizes a mobile device (defined here as smartphone, tablet, or cell phone), from a simple text message to a sophisticated augmented reality experience. Mobile learning seeks to utilize the near ubiquity and unique capabilities of mobile devices to make course materials available to students wherever they are, and to create new kinds of learning experiences. Mobile learning is not merely shrinking your course on to a phone--it's about creating opportunities for students to take it with them into the world.

What's Unique About Mobile Devices? (Show)

But Not All Students Have iPhones or Androids! (Show)

**MOBILE LEARNING EXPERIENCES** 

http://teachingcommons.depaul.edu/

# **Future Projects**

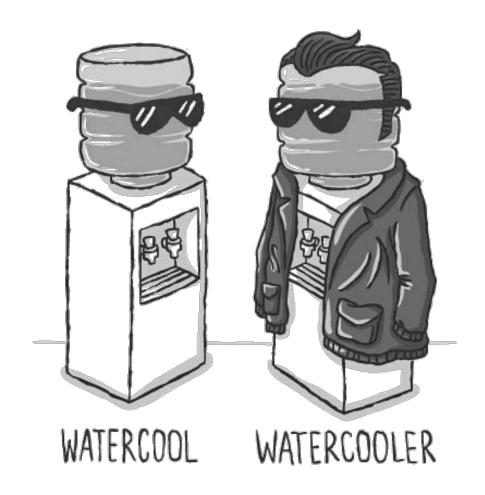
Integrate library research guides into D2L

Mobile library instruction

### **Benefits of Collaboration**



# **Improved Departmental Communication**



# **Expanded Networks: Connectivism**



Members reach across departments to gain access to new information and resources

# **Principles of Connectivism**

- Learning and knowledge rests in diversity of opinions.
- Learning is a process of connecting specialized nodes or information sources.
- Learning may reside in non-human appliances.
- Capacity to know more is more critical than what is currently known
- Nurturing and maintaining connections is needed to facilitate continual learning.
- Ability to see connections between fields, ideas, and concepts is a core skill

# **Expanded, Shared Knowledge Base**

#### Currency

(accurate, up-to-date knowledge) is the intent of all connectivist learning activities.

### Decision-making is itself a learning process.

Choosing what to learn and the meaning of incoming information is seen through the lens of a shifting reality. While there is a right answer now, it may be wrong tomorrow due to alterations in the information climate affecting the decision.

# **How the Library Benefits**

- Increased awareness of new resources
- The upside to "other duties as assigned": Participate in designing learning activities for courses
- Increased PR for the library and mobile
- Backstage passes to the LMS

# **Learn New Ways of Working**

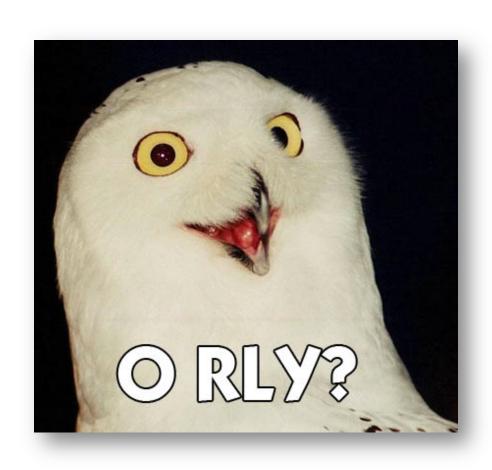








# The Value of Informal Learning Discussion



### **Before You Collaborate: Questions to Ask**

- Is there value for both parties?
- Are all members genuinely interested? (No extra pay!)
- Is there enough time for everyone to meet conveniently and regularly?
- Is one team member willing and able to function as project manager?
- What is the project timeline?
- Will the project succeed if any players exit?



### **Blueprint for For Your Own Collaboration**

- Short-term project ? Long-term collaboration?
- Agree on mission and specific goals first
- Determine source of financial support
- Determine how the collaboration will mutually benefit participants
- Aim for a balanced membership and a complement of skills (interpersonal, problem-solving, technical, etc.)
- Discuss allocation of hours and expectations with your supervisor (may not be immediate or tangible deliverables)

# Simply stated:

With energy, commitment, skill, and continual nurturing, you can achieve collaborative advantage.

- Huxham and Vangen

### **Works Consulted**

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## Questions?

#### Contact us!

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