Perceptions of First Year Students: How to be Better Advocates

Charissa Powell
Callie Wiygul Branstiter
Lindsay Inge Carpenter

Who Are We?

- Undergraduate Engagement Librarian
- Student Success Librarian
- First Year Experience Librarian

- Who we serve
  - Undergraduate students
  - International students
  - Transfer students
- What we do
  - Teach, manage, and assess information literacy programs
  - Outreach
  - Committees
- What we believe
  - Student-centered
  - Critical pedagogy

We love first year students!

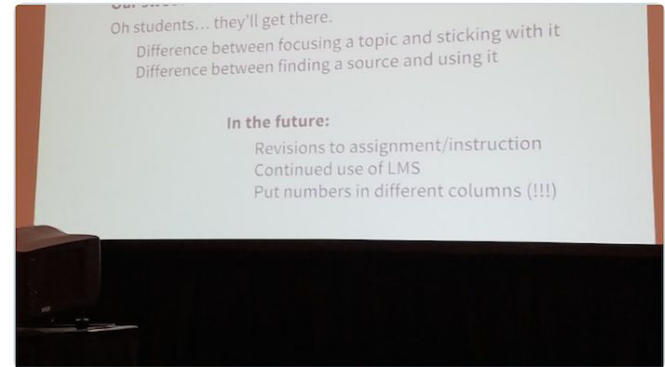(and assumed everyone else did, too)

What brought us here?

ACRL 2017
Twitter
Blogs

Zoe Fisher
@zoh_zoh

I need to stop going to sessions, I guess. I just get too mad when I see shit like this - calling students "dum-dums" #acrl2017

Oh students... they'll get there.
Difference between focusing a topic and sticking with it
Difference between finding a source and using it

In the future:
Revisions to assignment/instruction
Continued use of LMS
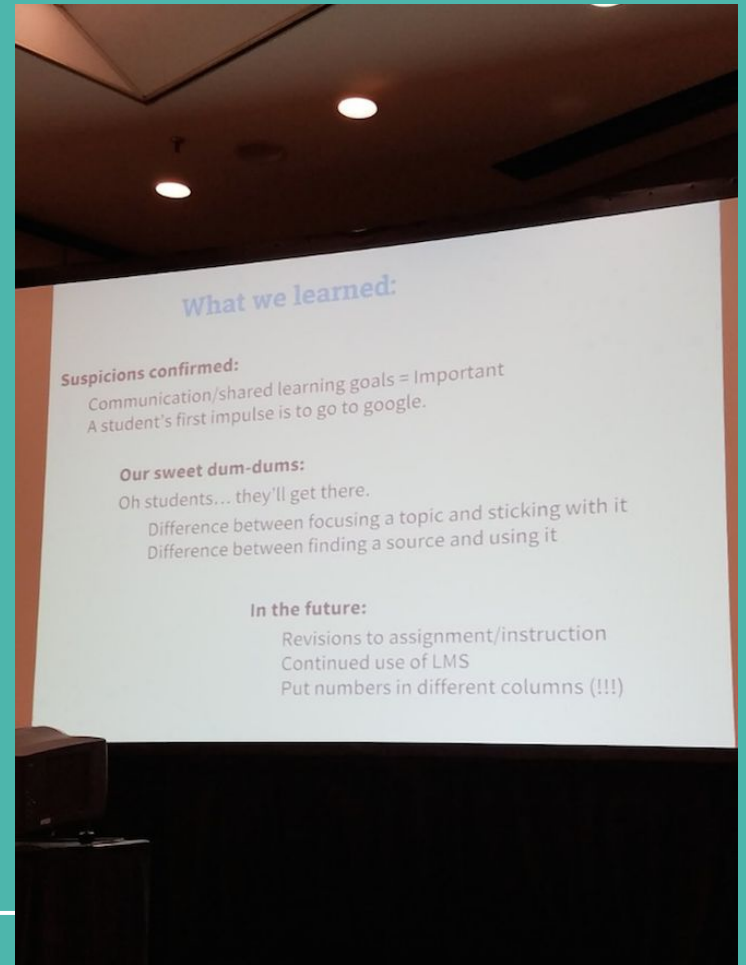Put numbers in different columns (!!!)

9:43 AM · Mar 25, 2017

What brought us here?

ACRL 2017
Twitter
Blogs

think/pair/share

In small groups, talk about a time you heard someone make a disparaging remark against students

What does the literature say about librarians' perceptions of undergraduate students?

crickets

This led us to a research project!

What are librarians' perceptions of undergraduate students?

What impacts librarians' perceptions of undergraduate students?

____

Step 1: Assess the Situation

- Where are you?

- Who are you?

- Who are they?

- Recognize your privilege and assess your risk

Step 2:
Know the Research

- What is the historic context?

- What fields of research are relevant?

- What type of evidence/authority might speak the most to this audience?

Power & Privilege in Higher Education

- Historical context
- Psychology
  - Microaggressions
  - Growth mindset
- "Authority is constructed and contextual"

___

Step 3:
Have the conversation!
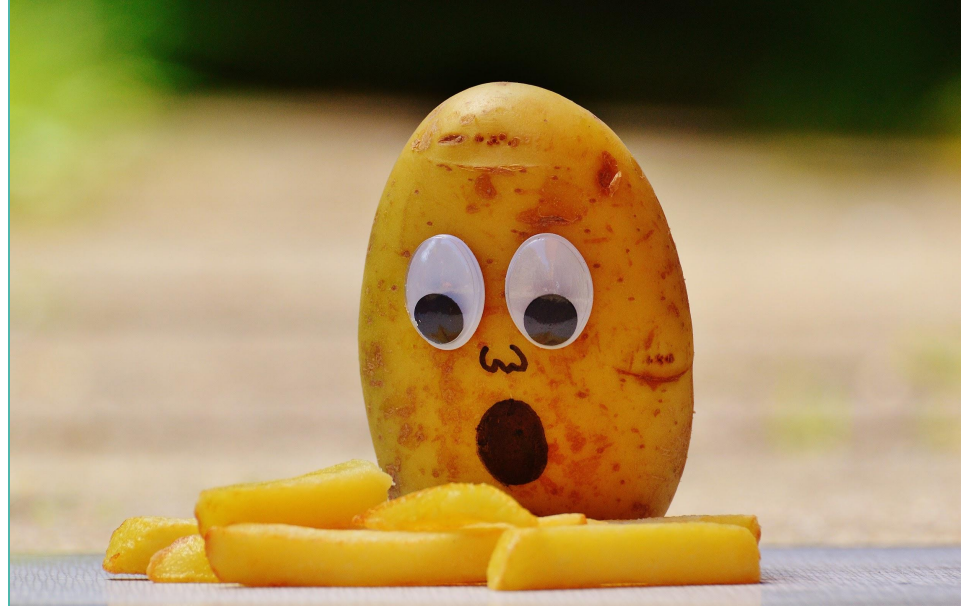
Having difficult conversations

Having difficult conversations

- "Pause…"
- "Can you tell me more about…?"
- "I think I was trying to…"
- "I feel …. when I …"
- "Yes, and…"
- Calling in vs. calling out

Let's Practice!

Let's Practice!

Instructions

- Groups of 2
- One of you is Jordan
- One of you is Casey

Let's Practice!

Your turn!

Jordan: "Hi I'm Jordan! I'm an undergraduate engagement librarian at Blank University and I work mostly with first-year students."

Casey: "Oh wow, you poor thing!"

____

Let's Practice!

Instructions

- Groups of 2
- One of you is Kim
- One of you is Corey

Let's Practice!

Your turn!

Corey: "We need to add a plagiarism activity for our ENGL101 classes - students are always looking for an excuse to cheat"

Kim: "...."

_____

Let's Practice!

Debrief

Step 4: Reflect

- How do you feel?
- What do you think?
- What do you want to know more about?
- Be kind to yourself

Examples of people doing it right

Amy Fast, Ed.D
@fastcrayon

The best way to manage your class is to like your students. It's not a feeling; it's a choice.

Make the choice to connect. I've never spent time getting to know a student and liked him or her less as a result.

9:16 PM · Jan 4, 2018

Miriam Posner
@miriamkp

This is how I try to teach, although it takes a lot of energy. Disliking a student is not an option I make available to myself.

Amy Fast, Ed.D @fastcrayon
The best way to manage your class is to like your students. It's not a feeling; it's a choice.

Make the choice to connect. I've never spent time getting to know a student and liked him or her less as a result.

6:36 PM · Jan 5, 2018

Bibliography

- Images - Pexels.com, free stock images under Creative Commons Zero (CC0) license
- Alabi, Jaena. "Racial Microaggressions in Academic Libraries: Results of a Survey of Minority and Non-minority Librarians." *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 41, no. 1 (2015) 47-53.
- Alabi, Jaena. "This Actually Happened": An Analysis of Librarians' Responses to a Survey about Racial Microaggressions." *Journal of Library Administration* 55, no. 3 (2015): 179-191.
- Arellano Douglas, Veronica. "This Conversation is Sort of About That, But Also Really Not: ACRL Reflections Part 1." *Libraries + Inquiry*, March 31, 2017. https://veronicaarellanodouglas.com/page/2/.
- Gray, Jody. "Identifying and Responding to Microaggressions Now." ALA Webinar, March 9, 2018.
- Farkas, Meredith. "Dear Professor." *Information Wants to be Free*, July 8, 2017. https://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/2017/07/08/dear-professor/
- Ferguson, Sian. "Calling In: A Quick Guide on When and How." *Everyday Feminism*, January 17, 2015. https://everydayfeminism.com/2015/01/guide-to-calling-in/
- Fisher, Zoe. "I Want Your Fight: On Shame and #ACRL2017." *Quick Ask Zoe*, March 28, 2017. https://quickaskzoe.com/2017/03/28/i-want-your-fight-on-shame-and-acrl2017/

Bibliography

- Hodge, Twanna. "Addressing Cultural Humility and Implicit Bias in Information Literacy Sessions." ACRL/ODLOS Webinar, January 23, 2018. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RyWxuCMMXDA&feature=youtu.be
- Loan Trần, Ngọc. "Calling IN: A Less Disposable Way of Holding Each Other Accountable." *BGD*, December 18, 2013. http://www.bgdblog.org/2013/12/calling-less-disposable-way-holding-accountable/
- "Resources." LIS Microaggressions. http://lismicroaggressions.tumblr.com/resources
- Sue, Derald Wing. "Microaggressions: More than Just Race." *Psychology Today*, November 7, 2010. https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/microaggressions-in-everyday-life/201011/microaggressions-more-just-race
- Sue, Derald Wing. *Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation*. Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley, 2010.
- All tweets/screenshots shared with permission
- Thank you to Tara Coleman for suggesting conflict resolution tips

Questions? Suggestions?

Let us know!

- Lindsay: linge@umd.edu
  - @Linds_Librarian
- Charissa: cpowel27@utk.edu
  - @CharissaAPowell
- Callie: callie.branstiter@ku.edu
  - @therealcalliek