Conference
Connect, debate, innovate
Library service innovation in a competitive world: focus on the user
3 July 2015

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This is the time to innovate

'[organisations] should set aside at least some portion of their resources for new business initiatives.'

Ring fencing the resource is important, especially where organisations face trouble in their core business.

The library operates in a competitive environment—your users have alternatives to library services. Others are trying to outdo you in meeting the needs of your users/customers...

...and you can’t do it all......
The library business is booming.

Libraries are so valuable they attract voracious new competition with every technological advance.

"One of the things we're trying to do is first to catalogue everything in the world you might want to know about.
alternatives to using (conventional) library services

How to access free academia

Search smarter
Use Google Scholar to search for the full title of the paper you require. Can you see "[PDF]" on the right? Then you're in luck -- some learned and helpful soul has made a copy available elsewhere.

Ask the author
Many academics post copies of their work online. Search for titles with "site: [theirdomain]" and "filetype:pdf". Or just ask directly, by sending a brief, slightly fawning message to the author.
Ask for help
Certain internet-dwellers can do your highbrow dirty work for you. **On Twitter, post the URL** of a paper with #icanhazpdf. Delete the request afterwards, and remember not to thank the sender by name.

Go incognito
If a site offers a limited number of articles for free per month, **try browsing via Chrome Incognito.** Your cookies get dumped when you exit, so sites can't recognise that you've been there before.
alternatives to using (conventional) library services

Instant access to an unlimited library of amazing children's books.

Get Started!

2015 Parents' Choice Award Winner

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alternatives to using (conventional) library services

Reading designed for kids. Reading designed for fun.

**Massive Library**
Thousands of high quality, recognizable titles to choose from. Discover your next favorite read!

**Reading Log**
Track your child's reading progress and discover how much they've read -- a great way to keep track of required reading homework!

**Read To Me Books**
Epic! offers a huge selection of titles with audio. Your children can read along while their favorite stories are read to them.

**Badges & Rewards**
Our unique reward system offers extra motivation to keep kids reading. Discover badges & unlock new rewards!

Kenchad consulting helping create more effective libraries.....
What are you going to **do**?— what’s your **strategy**?

![Diagram with overlapping circles labeled Context, Competitors offering, Customer needs, and capabilities, with a red area labeled strategic sweet spot.]

*Kenchadconsulting helping create more effective libraries....*
“Historically, libraries enjoyed stability and a shared understanding of goals. This in turn favored a focus on managing and improving the means towards those goals - building the collection, providing reference service, creating efficiencies in technical processing, and so on. Much of this work is inherently bureaucratic. However, in an environment of change while overall mission and values may remain the same, new and shifting goals become the norm. ..... 

As goals shift in a changing environment, so does the need to think about how to marshall the means to meet them. This may need reorganization, new staff skills, changing priorities, reallocation of staff and resources, and so on.

It requires a shift from bureaucracy to enterprise, an adaptive organization that reviews and reshapes what it does in light of changing requirements”.

Consumerization is the reorientation of product and service designs around the individual end user. The emergence of **the individual consumer as the primary driver of product and service design** originated from and is most commonly seen as a major IT industry shift.

The primary impact of consumerization is that it is forcing businesses to rethink the way they procure and manage IT equipment and services.
Focus on the user

Renovating the customer experience is a digital priority.

Digitalization and the digital business are catalysts of change that are affecting the human-machine relationship and driving better customer outcomes.

IT leaders should use Gartner's predictions as planning assumptions on which to base their strategic plans.

What about the user?

Library patrons, By Liz West. 2008 Flikr Creative Commons
what are they really doing?
What are they really doing?

“The meeting room was filled with people for some event, while in the main area other patrons looked at books or worked on computers”.

Library patrons, By Liz West. 2008 Flikr Creative Commons

Kenchad Consulting helping create more effective libraries.....
What about the end user?

I just want to get my assignment done on time.

..and preferably get a good grade.
Don’t ask customers what they want

“paradoxically the literal voice of the customer does not translate into meaningful inputs”

a ‘jobs’ and ‘outcomes’ based approach produces meaningful outputs that can be acted upon

JTBD—a structured approach to understanding user needs

What is the job - problem that needs to be solved?

Who needs to get the job done/solve the problem?

What is the particular circumstance of the problem?

Gains/Outcomes: what (measurable) criteria does the user consider in order to decide if the job has been successfully accomplished?

Pain points and barriers to getting the job done

http://www.kenchadconsulting.com/how-we-can-help/innovation/
Applying the methodology—first with staff-walk in the shoes of your users

- Creative thinking – “ideation”
- Make sure the group is diverse as possible. Outsiders can be useful
- Introduce the JTBD concept
- Provide some starting contexts: maybe a particular customer group or a particular technology
- Provide some background information on the area—something to stimulate and open up people’s minds - for example results from research or a provocative article

http://www.kenchadconsulting.com/how-we-can-help/innovation/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process (each process may help get several jobs done)</th>
<th>WHY</th>
<th>some possible JTBD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>search for an ejournal</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>complete an assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find a book on the shelves</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>present a project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>download an ebook</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>get a good degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manage research data</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>improve my research reputation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cataloguer) add/ edit metadata</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>make the resource more discoverable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make a video</td>
<td>WHY</td>
<td>strengthen my network of family and friends</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using the ‘jobs’-to-be done’ methodology to understand user needs

**PART 1: The job, user and circumstance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job/Task/Problem to be solved/job-to-be-done (be as clear and succinct as you can)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion of assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student wants to do a high quality piece of work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wants to deliver the assignment on-time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**User/customer**

BROAD CUSTOMER SEGMENT: First year undergraduate

Attributes:

- On business course — large number of students in the group
- Inexperienced — still trying to find the way round how library services work and the resources on offer
- This is the first or at least an early assignment
- Doesn’t have good search/information literacy skills — missed library induction
- Willing — keen to improve wants to be one of those students that prepare and doesn’t leave everything until the last moment
- Somewhat anxious — sometimes the information from lecturers about assignments can be confusing/contradictory
Working through the JTBD method: the Circumstance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circumstance (be descriptive and precise) Where is the user? What are the relevant attributes of the environment they find themselves in when they are trying to get this job done?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On the train with a tablet/smartphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most assignments are on Moodle and may not require additional resources—even reading lists—so the student is trying to improve on that while on the train (to achieve a better grade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has already done a good part of the assignment—looking for stuff that will make it above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No time to do all the reading—want some good online resources to quickly improve assignment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prioritising jobs

There can be hundreds of Job/User/Circumstance scenarios

scoring them helps you focus....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance 1=not important; 5=critical</th>
<th>Frequency 1=rarely 5=very frequent</th>
<th>Frustration 1=very happy 5=very frustrated</th>
<th>Score (importance+frequency) X frustration = a score 2 to 50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kenchad consulting helping create more effective libraries.....
### Why is the specific job important? Why does the user care? What is the fundamental problem the user is facing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Student is ambitious-so wants to do a <em>good</em> job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• So the question is <em>how</em> to make that added difference to get a good grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fundamental Job</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Get a top class degree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What does the user like about the option(s) used at the moment

| Google will deliver almost anywhere and on any device |
| Software is familiar and available |
| It’s the choice of friends & peers |
Applying the methodology—with the users themselves

**Focus groups** can be especially good at shaping long lists of jobs that come out of ideation sessions. Focus group can also be helpful in indentifying jobs which have most promise and to get feedback on specific ideas. However be very wary about getting *solutions* from customers. Customers do tend to latch on to existing solutions so may not see the ‘gaps’ for innovative products and services. Indeed customers are often not a good source for telling you what they ‘need’. That why it’s important to frame the questioning around the overall JTBD approach.

What do you do to understand ‘jobs’

Applying the methodology—with the users themselves

**One-on-one interviews:** Use the structured JTBD approach—remember "the literal voice of the customer does not translate into meaningful inputs"

**Customer observations:** Customers can find it hard to articulate their frustrations clearly, or they may have compensating behaviours they don’t even realise. So actually watching customers can be very helpful in spotting things that might otherwise go unnoticed and unidentified

### Analysis – how might we address the issues?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What doesn’t the user like about the process they use now to get the job done</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• I don’t know I have looked in the <em>right</em> place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Can I trust the resource-book/article? E.g. Is the author to be trusted?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I am unsure if I have fully/correctly understood what the article/book is about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Not sure results will deliver high marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Have I cited it correctly?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysing (potential) solutions focus on the following…

- **what outcomes can it address?**
  ('gain creators')

- **what barriers does it overcome?**
  ('pain relievers')

- **for what jobs is the solution applicable?**
Matching solutions to jobs

Gain/outcome

How?

Product/solution

Gain enhancer

Pain reliever

Gains/Outcomes—what (measurable) criteria does the user consider in order to decide if the job has been successfully accomplished?

Job

Pain/bARRIER

Pain points and barriers to getting the job done

How?
Epic the “value proposition”……what’s yours?

In a world of unlimited screen time, Epic! is a smart alternative to games and videos

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*Kenchad consulting* helping create more effective libraries…..
A lot of parents tend to want to limit “screen time” for their kids, and push them to read more books instead.

for many kids under the age of 12 or so, the iPad is for games and movies, and reading is mostly done on physical books.

“It looks like Epic strikes the perfect balance between educational and fun, and should allow parents to feel more confident about introducing the iPad into their children’s daily lives as a tool, rather than as a guilty pleasure or time-wasting treat.

Shelley Gullikson
Usability and user experience in academic libraries. Mine mostly

UXLibs conference: thoughts
MARCH 23, 2015 ~ SHELLEY

Shelley Gullikson (shelley_gee)

Carleton University, Library, Faculty Member

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“One of the many things we did was watch videos of students trying to find information. A second year student needed to find peer reviewed articles but clearly had no idea what this meant. A fourth year student came upon an article on her topic from the Wall Street Journal and thought it could be useful in her paper because it sounded like it was on her topic and came from a credible source (not seeming to realize that a credible source is not the same as a scholarly source). I found it striking that neither of these students seemed to understand what scholarship looked like; what it meant for a thing to be a scholarly source.”
More effective libraries - creating a great user experience

We work with libraries, businesses and sector bodies. We have proven and innovative methodologies to help create a compelling user experience.

How we can help
Conference

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focus on the user

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Conference 2016

Bringing the information world together

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