

TEACHING THE PUBLICATION PROCESS

ROAD TO COLLABORATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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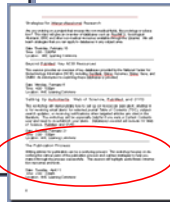
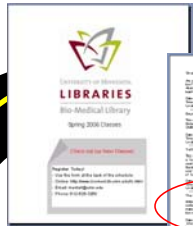


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Abstract: At the University of Minnesota, librarians from the Health Sciences Libraries collaborated with the Academic Health Center's Office of Clinical Research to produce a series of scientific writing seminars aimed at clinical researchers. This exciting partnership came about when the Office of Clinical Research noticed a sequence of library workshops called "Writing in the Health Sciences," and invited the library to be part of the planning process for its seminar series. This poster traces the road leading to collaboration on this topic, from its beginnings as simple library web page maintained by one librarian to a wide-reaching interprofessional partnership.



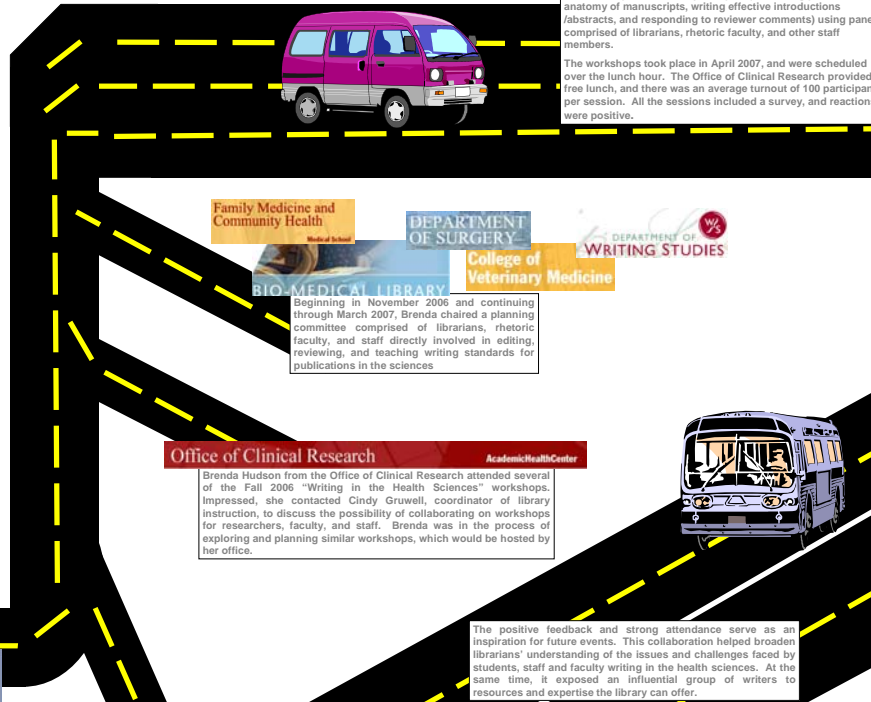
In October 2003, Katherine Chew, the Collections Coordinator at the Bio-Medical Library at the University of Minnesota, developed a web page entitled "Writing Guides and Style Manuals in the Biological and Health Sciences" at the request of students, faculty, and researchers. What started out as an informative web-page morphed into a variety of library classes and workshops hosted by the Office of Clinical Research.



During Fall of 2005, Katherine attended the MLA CE session "Developing a New Role for Librarians: Teaching the Publication Process", taught by Ann Weiler and Carol Scherrer. Inspired by the class, Katherine developed a three part-series called "Writing in the Health Sciences" which included: *The Research Process*, *Health Statistics and Data Sources*, and *The Publication Process*.



The success of the series continued to grow, and in the Spring 2007 the modules were re-grouped to highlight other library workshops complementary to the series, such as *Literature Search Techniques and RefWorks*, taught by Health Sciences Librarian Liz Fine.



Hence, the Scientific Writing Development series was born. Consisting of four modules and held on successive Fridays, the modules explored a variety of topics (the writing process, anatomy of manuscripts, writing effective introductions/abstracts, and responding to reviewer comments) using panels comprised of librarians, rhetoric faculty, and other staff members.

The workshops took place in April 2007, and were scheduled over the lunch hour. The Office of Clinical Research provided a free lunch, and there was an average turnout of 100 participants per session. All the sessions included a survey, and reactions were positive.



Beginning in November 2006 and continuing through March 2007, Brenda chaired a planning committee comprised of librarians, rhetoric faculty, and staff directly involved in editing, reviewing, and teaching writing standards for publications in the sciences



Brenda Hudson from the Office of Clinical Research attended several of the Fall 2006 "Writing in the Health Sciences" workshops. Impressed, she contacted Cindy Gruwell, coordinator of library instruction, to discuss the possibility of collaborating on workshops for researchers, faculty, and staff. Brenda was in the process of exploring and planning similar workshops, which would be hosted by her office.

The positive feedback and strong attendance serve as an inspiration for future events. This collaboration helped broaden librarians' understanding of the issues and challenges faced by students, staff and faculty writing in the health sciences. At the same time, it exposed an influential group of writers to resources and expertise the library can offer.

- Librarians**
- *Katherine Chew, MLS
 - *Elizabeth Fine, MLIS
 - *Cindy Gruwell, MLS
 - *Wayne Loftus, MLS
 - *Chad Fennell, MLIS
 - *Jim Beattie, MLIS
- Faculty and Staff Involved**
- *Brenda Hudson, MS, Office of Clinical Research
 - *Mary Knatterud, PhD, Dept of Surgery,
 - *Anne Marie Weber-Main, PhD, Dept of Family Medicine & Community Health
 - *Karin Matchett, PhD, College of Veterinary Medicine
 - *Michael Murtaugh, PhD, College of Veterinary Medicine
 - *Michael Franklin, MSc, Dept of Medicine
 - *T Kenny Fountain, PhD Candidate, Dept of Rhetoric/School of Public Health
 - *Bernadette Longo, Associate Professor, Writing Studies

