

Developing Research Skills

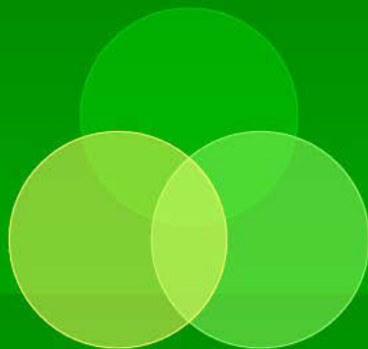
High school/University Collaboration

Alabama A&M University Learning Resources Center & J. O. Johnson High
School Ninth Grade Academy
Huntsville, Alabama

PRUDENCE WHITE BRYANT
REFERENCE AND INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Background and Planning

- March 2009
- Reference Staff at J.F. Drake Memorial LRC @ Alabama A&M University were requested to provide bibliographic instruction and exposure to online data bases to Ninth Grade Academy students at J. O Johnson High School



LRC Strategic Plan

- Fulfilled visionary component to develop Community based learning

Strategy 1

The LRC will serve as a focal point for accessing information resources and life long learning . Action steps were to encourage use of the library by High School Students

J.O. Johnson Profile

- 800 students in the Student Body
- 239 students Ninth Grade Academy
- 120 students Ninth Grade English
- 90 Faculty and Staff
- 11 Teachers Ninth Grade Academy

Purpose of Ninth Grade Academy

- Assist incoming High School Freshmen with the transition from middle school
- Provide support with academics, study skills, career planning , attendance and social behavior

Resources Available

- 3 computer labs available for research, remediation, distance learning, word processing, and internet browsing
- Students have access to the AVL (Alabama Virtual Library)

Review of the Literature

- The Academic library /high school connection: needs assessment and proposed model, Angie LeClercq in the Journal of Academic Librarianship v. 12, March 1986
- Maintaining a high quality of service to high school students is a challenge

Knowledge Quest , vol.30, March-April 2002, pp. 24-28,

- Describes the high school users program at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- Resources of a large academic research library are made available to high school students to complete research.

California State University- @Long Beach

- High School Students in the Long Beach
- Unified School District are provided an outreach program for a library card to access databases and the online catalog
- Alabama A&M University will provide a courtesy card for fifteen dollars for High School Students

The Big Day

April 2, 2009

- 50 students, two teachers and three teacher assistants from Johnson
- Five Librarians and support staff from Alabama A&M University
- Primary goal
- Demonstrate AVL (the Alabama Virtual Library)
- AMCAT (On line catalog)
- Electronic databases (Student Research Center), EBSCOhost etc)
-)

Procedure for Implementation

- Greetings and Introduction of AAMU Learning Resources Faculty and Staff and J.O. Johnson Faculty and Students
- Group 1
- PowerPoint Presentation followed by a walking tour of the building with information on basic operations Reference, Circulation, Government Documents , Serials and Archives
- Brief Introduction to the Online Catalog

Procedure for Implementation

GROUP TWO

- Walking tour was followed by a PowerPoint presentation

During the presentation , the students were given general information on basic operations of the Reference, Circulation, Government Documents and Serials

The students were also given brief instruction on how to search the AMCAT Online Catalog

Procedure for Implementation

- During the workshop portion of the presentation the Librarians demonstrated
- How to use the Alabama Virtual Library and other electronic resources,
- Use of the online catalog , Google and the comparison to the databases

Students browsed the stacks using the Dewey Decimal Classification System and the Re-Search Paper Schedule developed by their instructors

Procedure for Implementation

- Students were allowed time
- Interact with other students in a study hall setting
- Interact with librarians for questions and
- Answer period
- Check the online catalog, electronic databases and retrieve books from the stacks

Lessons Learned

- J.O. Johnson students were appreciative for the introduction to research in a university library
- Both parties agreed that more than one day was needed
- Students received a better understanding of the research process
- Completed Research Papers showed improvement after exposure to the online catalog, databases and other resources
- The collaborative effort also served as a recruitment tool to encourage students to attend Alabama A&M University and or the college of their choice

Save the Date

- April 2010
- Students enrolled in the Freshman Academy for 2009-2010 (a new group) visited the LRC
- for the Research Process Experience

- April 2011
- Continue the collaborative effort and invite the students enrolled for 2010-2011

Assessment

- Some of the students had been exposed to the AVL (Alabama Virtual Library) at the Huntsville Public Library and Media Center at Johnson
- Students agreed that retrieving books from the shelves using the Dewey Decimal Classification System was valuable to the research process

Students used the resources and MLA style for their research papers and returned on their own to AAMU and Huntsville Public Library

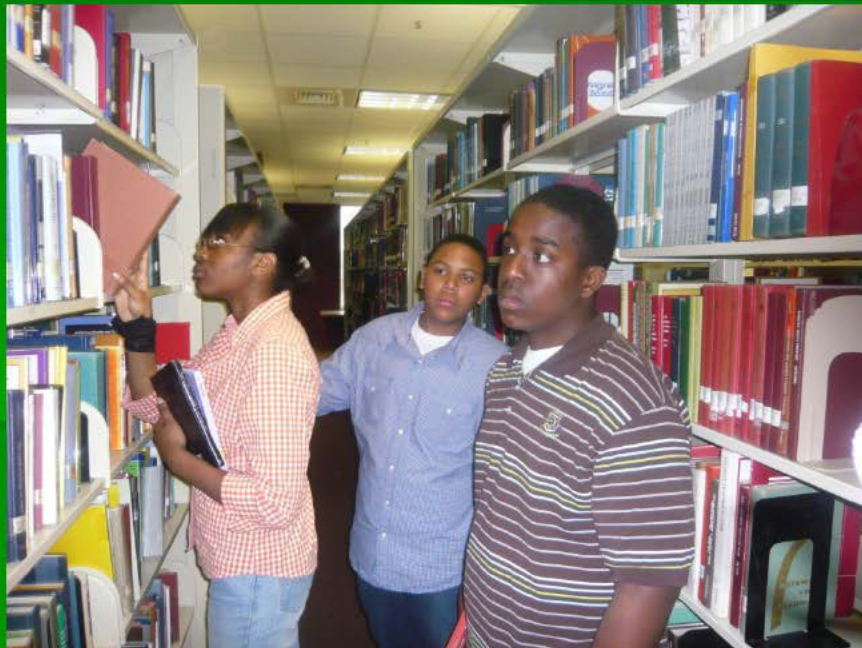
Long Range Plans

- Publish an article in a Scholarly Journal
- Journal of Academic Librarianship, College and Research Libraries News etc
- An article was published in the Campus Intercom, Fall 2010 and submitted to Research Journal at AAMU.
- Submit proposal for Poster Session and/or panel discussion at Alabama Library Assn, BCALA etc
- Presentation at ASDAL (Association of Seventh Day Adventist Librarians Conference 2010

Conclusion

- Overall the Outreach Experience was a very rewarding Experience for both the J.O. Johnson Faculty, Ninth Grade Academy Freshmen English Students, 'Alabama A&M University Librarians and Staff

Photo Memories













CONTACT INFORMATION

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Thank you for this opportunity to present @ ASDAL

- May God Bless each of you

- Warmest Regards
- Prudence