



Embedding learning literacies at Cardiff University:

INSRV's Digital and Information Literacies Strategy 2012-2014

Final

July 2012

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Introduction

This is the third three-year INSRV strategy to advance the development of information literacy at Cardiff University. For the first time, this strategy for 2012-2014 now includes the overlapping but distinctive concept of digital literacy. Although many students are “digital natives”¹ this does not necessarily equip them with the critical skills to appropriately choose and handle technology and information for higher-level study and the workplace. The incorporation of “learning literacies” into the University’s Education agenda, and the funding by JISC of the two-year Digidol project has prompted us to integrate the breadth of INSRV provision and intention for learning literacies into this new strategy.

This strategy and action plan sets out how INSRV will contribute to the University’s objective of “ensuring students are prepared for study and employment in the digital age, with a range of learning literacies embedded into the curriculum in addition to the subject knowledge” (Education Strategy 2011-14, para 24). This document builds on the INSRV Operational Plan in regards to digital and information literacies. It is also aligned with the University’s Welsh Medium Provision Strategy, Research Strategy and Graduate Employability and Enterprise Skills Strategy, and has been informed by national frameworks.^{2,3,4,5}

Summary of progress: 2009-2011

- The number of students engaging with information literacy as part of their curriculum, facilitated by subject librarians, increased to over 60%.
- Short videos created to engage students in large groups
- Vodcasts on specific techniques created and made available anywhere anytime
- Dedicated web pages outline the workshops, materials and help available for staff and postgraduate researchers
- New social media workshops and an online diagnostic test provided via the University Graduate College Programme
- Involvement in a Research Information Network funded national study on the role of supervisors in students’ information literacy⁶
- Sessions developed and piloted, tailored to the needs of Cardiff University Directorates
- Initiated and led the cross-sectoral Welsh Information Literacy Project, funded by the Welsh Government⁷, raising the profile of information literacy in the digital inclusion agenda, workplace and across the education spectrum.

Strategic Aims

1. To prepare students for study and employment in the digital age through the development of their digital and information literacies by:
 - a. facilitating integration of digital and information literacies into all taught programmes of study in partnership with academic Schools
 - b. enhancing the digital and information literacies of all research postgraduates, working in partnership with the University Graduate College and academic Schools
2. To spearhead the development of further opportunities to enhance the digital and information literacies of University staff, through Schools-based initiatives and through partnerships with other Directorates
3. To support the University in developing a co-ordinated approach to digital and information literacies across all Schools and Directorates
4. To facilitate and support Information Services staff in delivering this Digital and Information Literacies Strategy
5. To enhance engagement with the wider community and share good practice in digital and information literacies

The strategy will be achieved through an Action Plan, implemented by the INSRV Digital and Information Literacies Working Group (D & IL WG), in conjunction with subject librarians, staff on the Digidol project, insrvEducation and other INSRV staff supporting digital literacy enablement, including the ULS Staff Development and Engagement Group (SDEG), and overseen by the Education and Student Support Group (ESSG).

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