Simulations, Outreach and Health Sciences Libraries: A Triple Play for Success

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Simulations, Outreach, and Health Sciences Libraries: A Triple Play for Success

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Background
Hardin Saves the Day
Building Relationships
Tour Stations

- Harvey- Cardiac Rhythm Simulator
- Clinical tests- Cognitive, Visual and Neurological
- Cyber Anatomy- Three dimensional anatomy learning tool
- Eye Simulators
- Others- Knot Tying, Fine Motor Assessment, Maynard (Not pictured)
Harvey- Cardiac Rhythm Simulator

“Harvey was interactive and fun”

“Harvey was awesome”

“Harvey was really cool!”

“Very cool in Hardin—Harvey’s heartbeat”
Harvey- Cardiac Rhythm Simulator
Clinical Tests

“Hardin Library had fun hands on activities”

“Harvey was cool and I liked the tests at Hardin”

“Hardin Library was fun—actual hands on”
Clinical Tests

“Memory activity was the best”

“Hardin Library reflex test was awesome”
Eye Simulators

“I liked learning about the eyes”

“Looking in the eyes in library was fun”

“Fun looking at eyes..”
Cyber Anatomy

“Cool medical stuff in Hardin”

“It gave me courage to keep pursuing the medical field”

“Good learning experience”

“It was educational and definitely worth my time”

“I’m glad I could experience this”

“It was really, really fun!”
Putting it all Together

- We aim to customize each tour to the group that is scheduled.

- The majority of the groups are school-aged children, grade 2 to 12 and are visiting our library as a component of the mini-medical school program.

- We have expanded involvement with other groups outside of mini medical school program, such as
  - Leap- Lifetime Enrichment Adult Program
  - Project Hope- stimulating Health Science career interest in disadvantaged youth
  - Undergraduate students at the University of Iowa enrolled in specific course taught by Carver College of Medicine Faculty
  - And who knows what the future will bring!
Numbers and Impact

2009
• 17 tours
• 358 students

2010
• 26 tours
• 489 students

2011
• 6 tours
• 90 students
Numbers and Impact
Lessons Learned and Improvements

- Flexibility
- Keep students active and moving
- Safety
- Ask local experts for help
- Staff involvement from all levels
- Excitement!
Ideas for Future Directions

- More outreach to school districts within 50 mile radius
- Additional stations – organ reassembly with sexless torso!
- New staff training sessions as they arrive
- Scripts for different age groups
- Take it on the road!
Outcomes

- Discovering more about each other through working as a team.
- Developing working relationships with colleagues from the College of Medicine.
- Working with diverse groups of individuals, a learning experience for all.
- Increasing visibility of our library through local media reporting of our tours.
- Stimulating interest in health sciences fields and even medical librarianship.
- Learning more about working with children than we ever wanted to know!
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