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You Built It, but Can You Talk About It?

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Abstract

Gettysburg College and Bucknell University have adopted library-led summer research fellowships for undergraduates that focus on teaching research skills with digital methods. In the summer of 2017, Gettysburg and Bucknell's student cohorts met to learn how to create elevator speeches for their research topics; R.C. Miessler (Gettysburg), and Carrie Pirmann and Courtney Paddick (Bucknell), talk about the structure and goals of their summer programs, with a focus on their combined session and the importance of helping students learn how to talk about their research.

Keywords

digital scholarship, digital humanities, Musselman Library, summer fellowship

Disciplines

Digital Humanities | Library and Information Science

Comments

Presented at the [Spring 2018 Associated College Libraries of Central Pennsylvania \(ACLCP\) Conference in Harrisburg, PA, March 9, 2018](#).

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You Built It, But Can You Talk About It?

Effective Elevator Speeches
for Undergraduate Digital Scholars

R.C. Miessler, Gettysburg College
Carrie Pirmann, Bucknell University
Courtney Paddick, Bucknell University



Digital Scholarship Summer Programs: The Basics

- Curricular-based summer internship programs
- Programs are librarian-led; focus is on student-driven research rather than faculty-driven research
- Goals
 - Students learn about digital scholarship methods and tools, and undertake an independent, digitally-based research project.
 - Process-oriented, focus on **research** as well as tools / methods
 - Students engage in community of practice



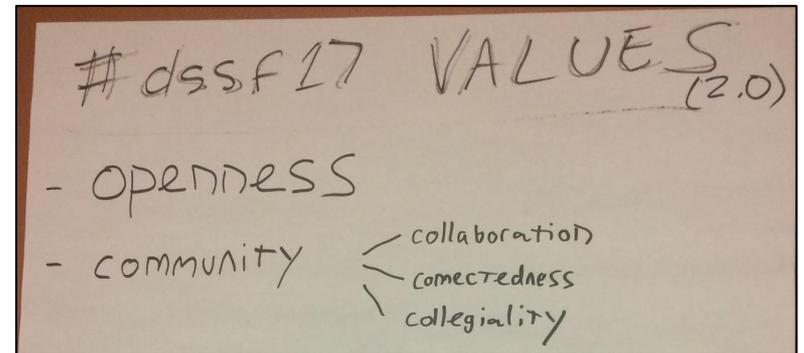
Research & Presentation Go Hand-in-Hand

- Both programs have a public presentation component at conclusion
- Students are also encouraged to present at conferences or other external venues
- Students need to learn HOW to talk about their research



Community of Practice

“**Communities of practice** are groups of people who **share a concern or a passion** for something they do and **learn how to do it better** as they **interact regularly.**” (Lave and Wenger, 1991)



Elevator Speech Workshop

1. I am _____, and I have been _____ this summer as a _____ at _____ University/College.
2. Based on what I've learned about _____, I have _____. By using digital tools, we can _____.
3. Specifically, my project _____. Now that I've done this part, my next step is to _____.
4. You have been a supporter of undergraduate research, and I thank you for _____. I would like to _____ to build upon my project.

In order to do this, I hope you'll _____. If we are able to move forward, I expect to see these benefits for students: _____.

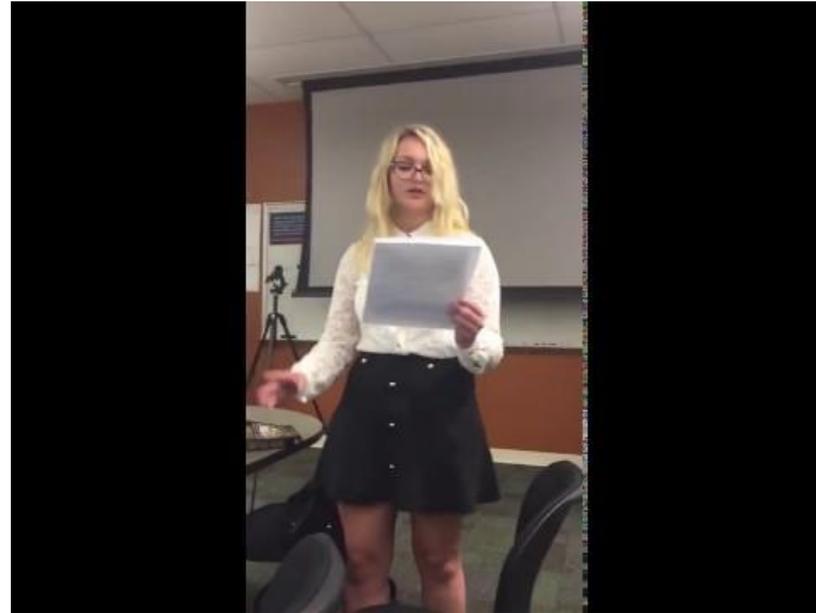
5. I know that's a lot of information. I hope we will be able to _____.

Putting it into action



Christina Noto @makeaNOTO · 10 Jul 2017

"This is to a potential employer" #dsgcmeet17 #seniorgoals #dssf17 #jobsearch



Julia Wall @wall_jules · 10 Jul 2017

"Julia is playing battle hymn of the republic to her speech again." #dssf17



1



Thank you!

Gettysburg College

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2016/>

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2017/>

<https://dssf.musselmanlibrary.org/2018/> (Coming Soon!)

Bucknell University

<http://dssrf.blogs.bucknell.edu/>

<http://dssrf2018.blogs.bucknell.edu/> (Coming Soon!)

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