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Information Literacy and Drama Academics

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A photograph of a forest path. The path is dirt and leads into a dense forest of tall, thin trees. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The path is flanked by green grass and ferns on the left, and more trees and some brown ferns on the right.

# Information Literacy and Drama Academics

**Andrew Walsh & Zoë Johnson**

**Twitter - andywalsh999**

**<http://innovativelibraries.org.uk/>**

# Background

- Mid Sized University in the UK
- Drama Department – mix of backgrounds
- Zoe's background and mine...



Photo by Jacqui Mellor



# Methodology

- Definition given!
- (Jisc iSKILLS)
- Semi-structured interviews with all (12) staff
- LOTS of transcription / coding
- To start answering:

*“How do Drama Academics within this department view and interact with their information environment for research and teaching?”*



# Codes...

... codes, everywhere!

Allocated to the over-arching themes such as:

- Searching
- Reading
- Organising
- Note taking
- Types of Information
- Links between experience and practice
- Acting vs technical theatre



# Searching

- By alerts
- Colleagues as a source of information
- Known items
- Library Resources
- Original or Source material
- Reading Lists
- Serendipity
- Stimuli
- Stored Materials
- Topic
- Variance between teaching, research and practice.



# Two Routes?

“Traditional” approach	Practice as Research
Need to fill the gaps	Continually taking in information
Looking for direct quotes or exact connections	Storing random ideas and make connections later
Experience then read up	Read and experience simultaneously
Vague ideas of what you “Should Have” leads to convoluted journey	Knowing what you have leads to quick and rewarding journey



# Behind this?

“Practice as research” = learning

“Traditional approach” = demonstrating learning

Social Constructivism?



# So what?

What is emerging from this research so far and how (as practitioners) will Zoe & I be using it?

# Thanks for listening...

More stuff from me at:

<http://innovativelibraries.org.uk/>

<http://libraryatoz.org>

I'm at [a.p.walsh@hud.ac.uk](mailto:a.p.walsh@hud.ac.uk)

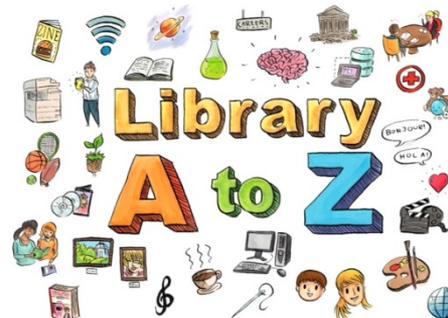
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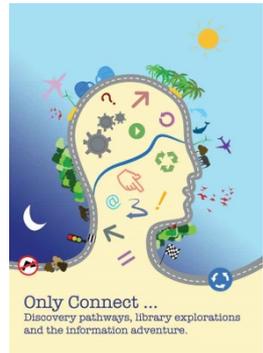
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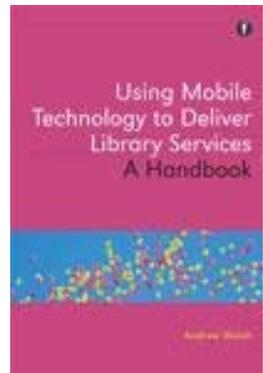
Andrea Walsh and Padma Inala



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Andrea Walsh