Shifting focus to create knowledge collaboratively

Voog, Hanna; Zettergren, Ann-Sofie

2013

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

• Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
• You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
• You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Take down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.
Shifting focus to create knowledge collaboratively
Hanna Voog, Social Sciences Faculty Library and Ann-Sofie Zettergren, Social Sciences Faculty Library, Lund university

This poster presents a project at Lund University Libraries (LUB), Lund, Sweden, with the object to identify areas where the present research support services ought to be developed and strengthened. The project is built upon the idea that if libraries are to offer relevant research support services, the librarians must collaborate with researchers in order to understand their needs and wishes in relation to their research processes. By doing so librarians are able to better understand the subject areas and knowledge cultures that researchers are active in.

A three folded project design was used: a) a literature review focusing on definitions and examples of research support services as well as researchers’ needs and experiences of support services, b) a survey to get an overview of the support services offered today at LUB, and c) focus group interviews with researchers to investigate key obstacles in their research processes. The purpose was not to evaluate current research support services but to develop more knowledge of how the researchers themselves experience their research processes and its obstacles. By shifting focus from the library’s current support and focusing on the researchers’ everyday lives, new insights are gained that is valuable for the future development of research support. Apart from offering such insights, the use of the method focus group interviews generated a model for how librarians can work in order to get to know the research and learning community and how to create networks and partnerships for the future. Future projects, using the same method, could for instance work as a way to get to know the problems that students and teachers are experience on how information literacy is developed within and used in specific subject areas.