Merging Library 2.0 and Technology to Engage the Millennial Learner

LOUIS Users Conference
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LSU School of Veterinary Medicine
Characteristics of the Millennial Learner

- Generation X, Y, and Z?
- Visual, computer generation
- Impatient with non-engaging pedagogical techniques
- Passive participants
- Social networking
What kind of learner am I?

- Visual
- Auditory
- Read / Write
- Kinesthetic
“The principles of Library 2.0 seek to put users in touch with information and entertainment wherever they may be, breaking down the barriers of space, time and outdated policy. It is a user-centered paradigm focusing on knowledge, experience, collaboration, the creation of new content and encouraging the heart.”

Michael Stephens, Library 2.0 Guru, Tame the Web
Engaging the Millennial Learner

- Critical thinking exercises
- Small group discussions
- Think-pair-share
- Problem-based learning (PBL)
- Technology enhanced activities
Making the Connection

- Incorporating familiar technologies to introduce concepts
- Real world scenarios
- Use computers, music, and video to engage the learner
Sample playlist to engage the millennial learner

- Help! (The Beatles)
- I Want It All (Queen, Classic Queen)
- Think (Aretha Franklin)
- Under Pressure (Queen, Classic Queen)
- When Will I See You Again (The Three Degrees)
- You Can’t Always Get What You Want (The Rolling Stones)
What is a wiki?

“A type of web page designed so that its content can be edited by anyone who accesses it, using a simplified markup language.” Oxford English Dictionary

- Developed by Ward Cunningham

- Named after Hawaiian word, “wiki” which means “quick.” [A little etymology...](#)
LS102 wiki

- Background
  - Wikis in Plain English

- Advantages / Disadvantages

- Sample Assignment
“WIKIALITY”

- Stephen Colbert’s clip on “Wikiality”
- Website: [http://www.comedycentral.com](http://www.comedycentral.com)
  - Search for “Wikiality”
  - Length: Approximately 4 minutes

Sample question:
After viewing Stephen Colbert’s video clip on Comedy Central entitled “Wikiality,” do you have any concerns about relying upon Wikipedia for information? Why or why not?

- Discussion in small groups
- Reflective writing piece
- General class discussion
How to reach ‘em?

Put the library in places where the users are!

- Virtual office hours
- Café office hours with wireless laptop
- Laptop librarian outreach program
- Text messaging
Where do we go from here?

Other ways to reach the millennials…

- Create a wikipedia page for your library.
- Build a library podcast.
- Build a library in Second Life.
- Create a YouTube Library Video Contest.
- Create a library Facebook group.