Information has value

Due Diligence with Confidence

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Getting Your Voice Heard

**Professor**

You are a professor who has studied student success for more than 20 years and you have developed your own theories and knowledge on this issue. How can you get your opinion known to others? If people want to find your opinion, where should they look for?

**Administrator**

You are the Director of the Diversity and Inclusion Office at a University. You are responsible for developing university-level diversity strategies and programs. You want to share successful practices and approaches of your office. How can you get your experience shared? If people want to find the information from you, where should they look for?

**Student**

You are a student at a University. You have concerns about the recycling and waste reduction practices on campus. You don’t think the current practice is sustainable and you believe as a student you have a great role to play to build a sustainable practice for your university. You want the voices from students being heard. How can you make it happen? If people want to find opinions from students, where should they look for?

**Organization Member**

You are a member of the National Association of College & University Food Services and serve on the Nutrition Awards committee, which will select Most Innovative Wellness & Nutrition Program from your member institution each year. Your committee wants to highlight the award winners. Where do you post the information? If people want to find the award-winning wellness programs, where should they look for?
When to Use Library? When to Google?

Library is better for:
- Books
- Scholarly Articles
- Searching News
- Articles

Google is better for:
- Some Scholarly Articles
- Newspaper and Magazine Articles
- Trade Publication
- Professional Association's reports/surveys/newsletters/opinions/best practices
- Public domain content (laws, policy, etc.)

What would still be missing? It depends on:
What is available/affordable to us and how good we are at finding them.
Think about synonyms, broader, narrower, related terms, variant spellings, abbreviations, acronyms and other different ways to express the same concept; Use **Pearl Growing strategy** to keep the keyword system evolve.

How good you are at finding information is dependent on how well you understand information stakeholders, understand our society and our people.
Let's go to the Library
5. How to get along with a search engine?
Understand any definitions, clarify any questions, and keep your mind open for new discoveries.

1. What is the topic, again?
Understand what is available in libraries what is not. Use professional tools like a professional.

2. Who would care?
Analyze who would care and where they would share the information about this topic. Be imaginative but relevant.

3. Google it or not? What is available?
Develop a system of keywords related to topics and formats. Making sure search terms can help you find underrepresented voices.

4. What keywords to use?
Professors and librarians are always here to help you with your research, so don’t hesitate to ask for help.

6. Who can I ask for help?
Be understanding, reflective and responsive.
Research is an open-ended exploration and engagement with information. It needs mental flexibility and creativity.

We need to seek multiple perspectives during information gathering and make the effort to get marginalized voices heard.

Information is a commodity and having access to information sources is a privilege. Taking advantage of what is available, but being humble.

We are contributors to the information marketplace and we can leverage the value of information to effect changes on our campuses and our community.

Research is an iterative process. It needs strategic exploration and constant inquiry. We should value the skills and time needed to produce knowledge and put persistent and diligent effort in research.

We should respect the original ideas of others and giving credit to the original ideas of others through proper attribution and citations.
Thanks!

Any questions?

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