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LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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User Education

• Successful Story On Integrating Information Literacy Programme to Academic Curriculum – BRE 377

Information Literacy in Subject BRE377 Research Methods

Subject Leader: Dr. Y.H. Chiang

Subject Lecturer: Prof. Bo Tang, Dr. Daniel Chan

* Background

BRE 377 Research Methods is a compulsory subject for BSc(Hons) in Building Engineering and Management, Property Management and Surveying students. There were about 250 students studying the subject in the last academic year. Introduced by Faculty Librarian of FCE, Ms. Celia Chow, they learned about our Information Literacy Programme and 9 face-to-face library workshops were conducted. Prior to the workshops, students were required to complete the Online Information Literacy Programme.

* How to Use the Programme?

As the students need to complete their dissertation for graduation, the Library's Information Literacy Programme (ILP) provided useful guidelines and tips for students on searching and manipulating reference materials based on their chosen topics before and during the dissertation process. Library workshops demonstrated real-life practices of searching relevant information and data in relation to their lecture on research theories. The students greatly benefited from the Information Literacy Programme.

* How Useful was the Programme to Students?

The quality of the initial concise / final detailed dissertation proposals was better after the students have attended library workshops. As commented by Dr. Chan, students knew better and were more confident in choosing a suitable dissertation topic, performed effective database search, conducted more extensive literature review and were able to identify some critical issues or missing gaps for their dissertations.

* Will you recommend your faculty/department to use the Information Literacy programmes offered by the Library? Why?

Dr. Chan gave a definite yes to the question as he found that students could learn useful guidelines and tips from the programme and performed better in their dissertations. The programme was quite comprehensive and satisfactory. The subject lecturers would definitely continue to have the IL programme in their BRE377.

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