INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS IN LIBRARIES – THE WEB 2.0 WAY
Leonie Atkins, Tasmanian Polytechnic, TAS

The purpose of the paper is to report on an E-Innovations project conducted in 2009 to help students studying to be library assistants to be better prepared for using web 2.0. The project involved a small team of people with representatives from the State Library of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania’s Morris Miller Library and graduates of the Certificate III. The library representatives helped to target appropriate web 2.0 technologies and suitable workplace scenarios used in their workplaces. Graduates of the Certificate III provided a student perspective to the design process.

Learning strategies were developed based on the workplace scenarios and output as a teachers’ toolkit in the form of a blog. Delivery was trialled with a small cohort of new students. Then, content, delivery, training and assessment were evaluated and modified based on stakeholder feedback. A further trial of the course was conducted and last modifications made.

All participants in the project agreed that the new course enabled students to be more confident in using web 2.0 tools, better prepared for working in the library and information services industry and better prepared for transition to the Diploma qualification which involves many more web 2.0 applications. Students involved in the two trails provided positive feedback.

The course is now ready for delivery in 2010 as part of the Certificate III in Library and Information Services and is available free of charge through the Internet for anyone wishing to use it.