

Health Library 2.0

Ten Tech Tools for Health Libraries & Librarians

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Outline

- ✓ What is health library 2.0?
- ✓ Ten tech tools
 - ✓ demos
- ✓ Q & A

What is Health Library 2.0?

- ✓ Harnessing the power of Web 2.0 tools & technologies to help fulfill the mission of the library & serve users.
- ✓ Not being afraid to experiment & take risks.
- ✓ Involving your users in planning & delivering library services.
- ✓ Transparency! Being accountable to your users.

Web 2.0 Tools & Technologies

- ✓ Web-based
- ✓ Usually free
- ✓ Powered by users
- ✓ Interoperable
- ✓ Slick, easy, convenient

Ten Tech Tools

(...that you can start using next week with barely any learning curve and minimal wrangling!)

1. Wordpress

- ✓ Blogging tool (hosted or installed)
- ✓ A free & easy-to-use CMS
- ✓ News, special projects, internal communication, current awareness, or use it as a lightweight CMS!

Examples

- ✓ <http://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin>
- ✓ <http://jcponcology.wordpress.com/>
- ✓ <http://meadvillelibrary.org/>

2. MedWorm

- ✓ Browse/search 100s of medical RSS feeds
- ✓ Subscribe to feeds directly
- ✓ Grab the feed for your search
- ✓ <http://www.medworm.com/>

3. Feed2JS

- ✓ RSS is good for more than just personal consumption!
- ✓ Use RSS + JavaScript to display continually updated content on your website
- ✓ Use Feed2JS's hosted service or upload the scripts to your own server
- ✓ <http://feed2js.org/>

4. Del.icio.us

- ✓ Social bookmarking tool
- ✓ Organize your bookmarks using your own tags
- ✓ Store your bookmarks in an online, searchable database

4. Del.icio.us

- ✓ "Catalogue" useful websites for your users using del.icio.us
 - ✓ Use MeSH subject headings (or any other scheme that makes sense to you/your users)
 - ✓ Use "audience" tags for specific fields of medicine/research or for specific classes
- ✓ Display your links on your library website

Demo + Examples

- ✓ <http://del.icio.us>
- ✓ University of Michigan Health Sciences Library: <http://del.icio.us/UMHealthSciencesLibraries>
- ✓ Health Sciences Library @ Stony Brook University: <http://del.icio.us/healthscienceslibrary>

5. Screencast-O-Matic

- ✓ Screencast = a video of your screen, including mouse movements & clicks
- ✓ Great for quick, online demos of search tools, new interfaces, etc.
- ✓ <http://www.screencast-o-matic.com/>

Examples

(not necessarily created with Screencast-O-Matic)

- ✓ Yale:
<http://www.med.yale.edu/library/education/tutorials/findit/>
- ✓ McMaster:
<http://hsl.mcmaster.ca/education/tutorials/index.htm>

6. LibraryThing

- ✓ Free, online book cataloguing tool
- ✓ A super-easy new-books list
- ✓ Widget to display your new books on your website
- ✓ Your users can subscribe to your new books feed too!
- ✓ <http://www.librarything.com>

Examples

- ✓ <http://www.shenandoah.lib.ia.us/>
- ✓ <http://www.atlantic.lib.ia.us/>
- ✓ <http://www.franklintwp.org/teenmainpage.htm>

7. Journal Junkie

- ✓ Free podcast syndication service
- ✓ Audio abstract summaries from high impact medical journals
- ✓ Listen at their website or subscribe in your favourite podcatcher
- ✓ <http://journaljunkie.com>

8. CiteMD

- ✓ Sort of like del.icio.us, but with a rating system (think digg.com for medical references!)
- ✓ Includes an online reference manager
- ✓ Login, create manuscripts, generate footnotes & works cited automatically
- ✓ <http://citemd.com/cms/>

9. Medical Wikis

- ✓ Interesting reference tools
- ✓ Collaborative
- ✓ Great knowledge bases
- ✓ David Rothman's list of medical wikis:
<http://davidrothman.net/list-of-medical-wikis/>

10. Protopage

- ✓ RSS aggregator + so much more!
- ✓ Personal portal
- ✓ Great for personal organization
- ✓ Outreach: set up accounts, load up customized feeds, show your users how to use it!

Demo + Example

- ✓ <http://www.protopage.com/>
- ✓ <http://www.protopage.com/healthlib>

Questions?

My questions for you...

- ✓ Are you using 2.0 tools @ your library?
Which ones?
- ✓ What are the low-hanging fruit when it comes to implementing 2.0 tools in health libraries?
- ✓ What, if any, problems or resistance have you faced when trying to implement a 2.0 tool @ your library?

Thank you!

This presentation is online at
<http://blogwithoutalibrary.net/talk/hsict2007/toptech.pdf>

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