

PATHWAYS TO NEW ROLES:

The Education, Training and Continuing Development of the Health Library & Information Workforce, *Health librarian as a teacher*

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***From a probationer of driving licence to a formula 1 driver : how to embed the information literacy education as a part of academic degree. Cases Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine***  
Poster session

## **1. Background**

### a. Information literacy & Bologna process

There has been changes in the Finnish university curriculum by 2005, in accordance with the Bologna process, requiring universities to make an analysis of their core curriculum components. This process offers an opportunity to link information literacy (IL) more closely and coherently to the subjects taught in universities. In this context, information literacy can be defined as the ability to search for, locate, evaluate and make use of diverse information sources. Its integration in the academic curriculum is the task and opportunity to the librarians.

### b. Two-cycle degree system: undergraduate and graduate degrees

The new two-cycle degree system, i.e. Bachelor's/Master's system, was introduced at the university of Helsinki. The close connection between research and instruction is emphasized in the University's objectives: the Master's degree will continue to be the students' primary objective, providing a solid basis for scientific research work. In general, there is no selection process in the transition from Bachelor's level studies to Master's level studies. Exception to this rule is the qualification to Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy.

## **2. The degrees in Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine**

The degrees offered by the Faculty of Pharmacy are the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Master of Science in Pharmacy, and the postgraduate degrees are Licentiate of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy. The Bachelor's degree consists of 180 credits and completing the degree takes three years. The Master's degree consists of 300 credits and completing the degree takes 5 years (Bachelor's degree 180 credits+ two years 120 credits).

The basic degree offered by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is two-staged, first the candidate degree (180 credits), followed by the Licentiate of Veterinary Medicine degree (180 credits), total 360 ECTS. It takes approximately six years to complete the basic degree. Problem-based learning lies in background when IL is taught.

The Faculties of Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine are situated at the multidisciplinary Viikki campus, which is a remarkable centre of biosciences at the European level. In addition to biosciences at the campus carries also a wide range of researchers on other areas of science e.g. environmental and veterinary sciences, food technology and economics.

## **3. Embedding of the IL to the curriculum**

Information Literacy Teaching at the Viikki Science Library:

#### 1st year:

Library Tour; ICT Driving Licence: in-class teaching 2 hours, self-learning material, test  
*The ICT Driving Licence (3 ECTS) is a course shared by all the faculties of the University of Helsinki. The goal of the course is to make sure that each new student from all of the 11 faculties will have the necessary ICT (Information and Communication Technology) skills for their studies*

#### 2nd year

Other teaching cooperation with the faculty members, e.g. Seminar in Physiology

#### 3rd year

Bachelor seminar: In-class teaching 2 x 2 hours  
Students can form their own groups and request tailored teaching.  
The Bachelor's Thesis is a review of literature and does not include any empirical part.

#### 4th year, 5th year

Masters seminar: In-class teaching 2 hours; Scholarly Information Retrieval

The Master's Thesis may include an empirical research, performed independently, mostly supervised by a director of research group.

### **4. Making practices better**

The Viikki Science Library has an active role in planning and carrying out the IL program at the Viikki Campus Faculties. All new students pass through the ICT Driving Licence and get deepened IL education all the way during their curriculum.

The techniques are e.g. class room hands on teaching, team teaching (librarian + faculty), net-based learning , e.g. ViVO-course on BSCW\*). Teaching information literacy is effective when the students are starting their own research projects; the motivation to learn the skills is at its best.

The success of the process relies on the good interaction between the library and the faculties: teaching librarians are members of the study boards, faculty members are kept up to date in library, the faculty gets pedagogical support. Evidence based medicine goes as a red threat in the curriculum of a veterinary student.

One example of the pedagogical support is the "Peda-Caf " realized by the library in cooperation with the pedagogical university lecturers and educational technology advisers. Teachers may share the good practices and get new ideas how to incorporate IL into their courses. Librarians get a more visible role in the academic community.

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\*) The BSCW shared workspace system is a globally proven tool for efficient group collaboration. Coordinate your internal and external workgroups in order to exchange documents, contacts, tasks, memos and appointments in a shared work environment.