

User engagement through innovative user experience techniques

Jo Milton Collection Development Manager, Cambridge University Library

Objectives

- ☐ What is User Experience?
- ☐ Medical Library case study
- □ Outcomes
- ☐ Where next?



What is User experience (UX)?

UX is now enjoying a broader definition which encompasses user experience of spaces and services too. UX in Libraries weaves together usability, and space and service design techniques under one umbrella.

Andy Priestner – Information and Library Services Manager, Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, May 2015



The UX Journey



UX in the Medical Library

https://futurelib.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/the-protolib-project-final-report.pdf





UX in libraries

- Librarians and library services are extremely user focused
 - We seek out user opinions through survey, comments cards etc.
- WE think we know best but.....
 - We want to grasp our users views, discover how they use library spaces and services and realise their vision



We don't always take the obvious path





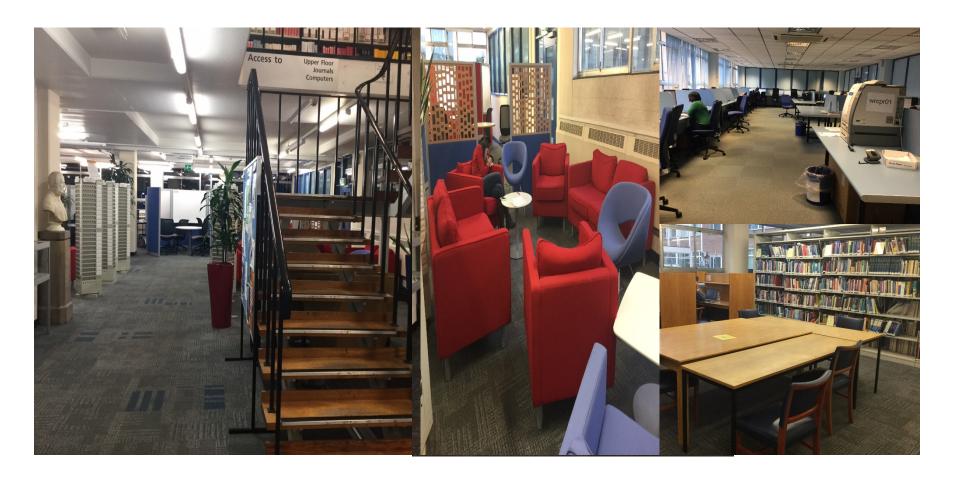
It's not right...



Our Customers

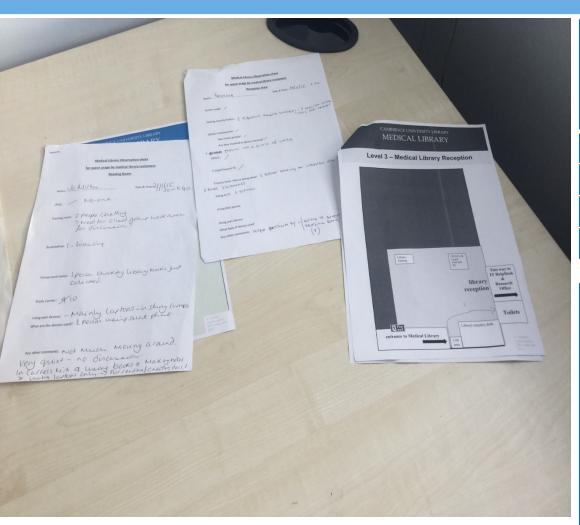


Medical Library 2015





Observation



Library observations x 4 daily for 10 mins (Monday – Friday) X 3 (Saturday)

Reading room

Group work area

Reception area

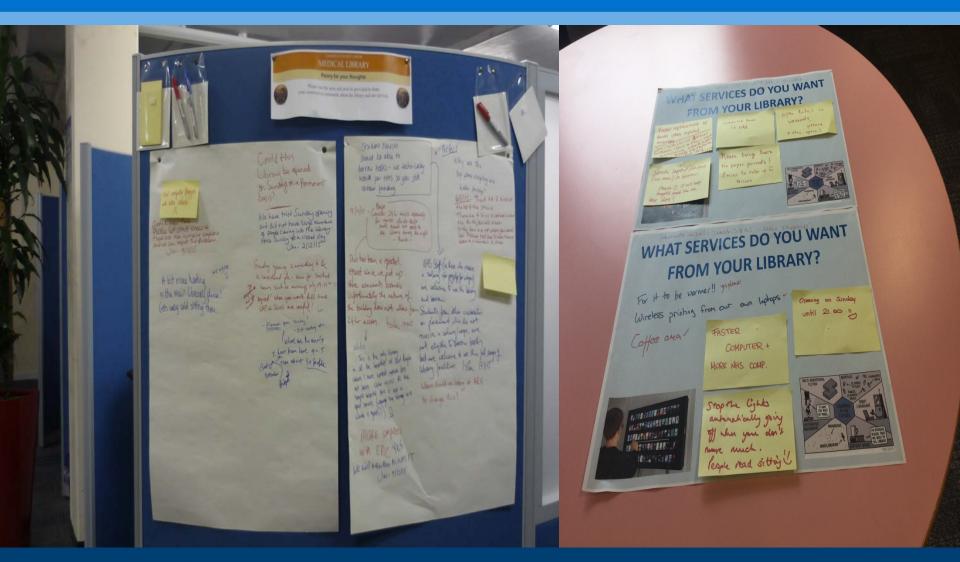
PC room

Observing user behaviour:

- Number of people
- What activities they are in engaged in
- What equipment they are using & is it library equipment or their own

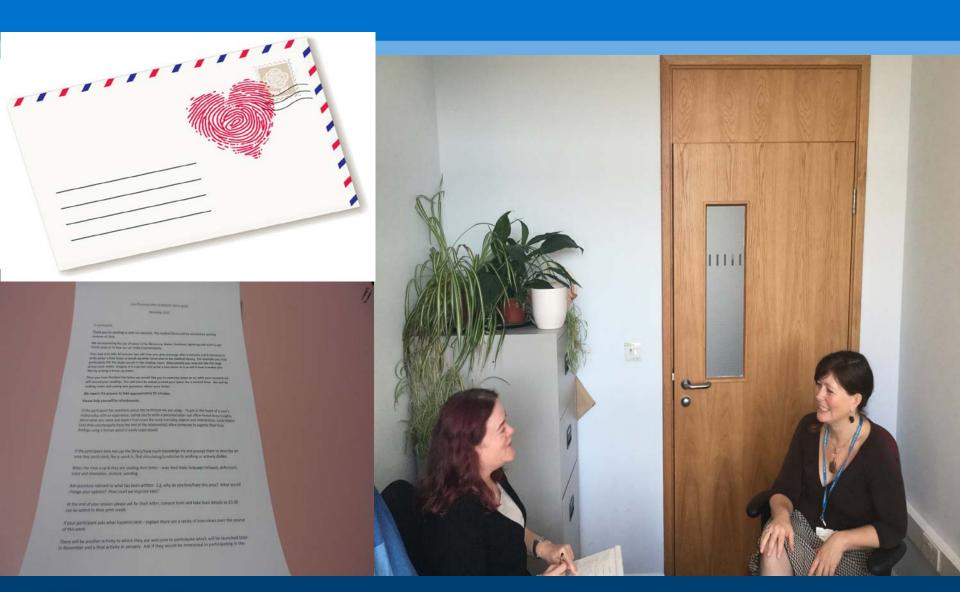


Graffiti Walls and directed comment boards





Letter Interviews





Design Workshops







The Surprises, the Quick Wins, the Ridiculous...

 Member of hospital staff feeling that the library is not the place for them and to "get what I need and leave as quickly as possible. I only stay and work in the library if I have to".

Stapler, phone chargers, desk lamps

Mini fountain, Pizza vending machines



Our story =/= Your story

Outcomes unique to our library,
but generic, low-cost techniques applicable anywhere

• Better understanding of and engagement with library users, and of how they want *their* library to evolve

Evidence to support redesign of library space



The UX Journey continues



UX in the Medical Library





- Jo Milton <u>jm908@medschl.cam.ac.uk</u>
- http://library.medschl.cam.ac.uk/
- @cam_med_lib
- <u>@PolarPrincess</u>
- http://tinyurl.com/JM-EAHIL062016-UXTechniques

