This Chronicle report invites us to “explore the latest trends, innovations, and research that could fundamentally alter teaching and learning in the decade ahead.” The report cites stagnant college graduation rates, our daily tilt-a-whirl of educational technology and other forces educators must wrestle with to ensure a fair shot at success for all students.

Predictive analytics, enhanced advising, core course redesign, immersive learning, adaptive courseware, open educational resources, data ethics, and active learning are just some of the topics covered.

As you might expect, this new title is popular! To check its availability, e-mail Michael Stevenson.
Civic education at the QCC library

Get out the vote! Students Kevin Ortiz (left) and Ryan Singer (right) picked up their Massachusetts Voter Information Booklets.

Constitution Day, September 17. The library celebrated by distributing nearly 200 pocket constitutions. Student Elisabeth Rezidor holds hers in front of the library display.

Online Pilot Program

Beginning this semester, the QCC Library is providing online information literacy instruction. Kristina Brand’s Social Media Marketing (MRK 241) and Maureen Giacobbe’s Introduction to Microcomputer Applications (CIS 111) classes participated in this pilot program.

Tiger Swan, Coordinator of Library Reference and Instruction, connected with both classes via Blackboard Collaborate which enabled him to share his screen with students while demonstrating how to search library resources using the homepage search box, individual databases and the library catalog. Students in Brand’s class found a variety of articles and reports for their social media marketing project in the Business Source Premier and NexisUni databases.

Giacobbe also serves as QCC’s Coordinator of Instructional Technology and Assessment. She wanted her CSI 111 students, most of whom are new to QCC and work full time, to virtually meet a librarian and become familiar with all the resources that the library offers. Library instruction also gave her the opportunity to introduce students to Blackboard Collaborate, a virtual learning tool similar to those that students will be expected to use in the 21st century workplace.

In the future, Tiger Swan hopes to offer virtual library instruction for high-enrollment online courses such as English 101. In addition, he hopes to leverage the flexibility of Blackboard Collaborate to support greater numbers of faculty via virtual library drop-in sessions. Please feel free to contact Tiger with any questions about online library instruction or simply fill out a library instruction request form.

—Cary Morse

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