

Emerging Strategies for Supporting Student Learning: A Practical Guide for Librarians and Educators.

By Barbara Allan (2016). 178 pages, ISBN: 9781783300709. \$75

Subject: How to be a better teacher

Useful for: Academic librarians and other college/university educators who are seeking strategies for supporting student learning in higher education

Format: Chapters with index

Reviewer's Comments:

Emerging Strategies for Supporting Student Learning: A Practical Guide for Librarians and Educators provides direction to librarians and to others in higher education who would like to support student learning. The first half of the book lays the groundwork to help the reader understand the need for the strategies discussed in the second half of the book. The book begins with an examination of the current state of higher education. The author pays particular attention to issues related to the diversity of the student population and the expectations students have about their learning experiences. She also discusses the role that academic librarians can play in supporting the employability of students in higher education. The author then shifts to a discussion of some of the various approaches to teaching and to student learning in college and beyond.

In the second half of the book, the author provides more concrete information about the strategies offered and how to deliver the learning experiences discussed. The author explains different ways to provide content to students and suggests several “learning and teaching activities” as examples. She also provides suggestions for course design, including ideas for flipped classrooms, blended learning, and online courses. Methods for evaluation of the educational activities and the course design are provided. The book ends with a discussion of the importance of continued professional development for academic librarians and educators.

Although this book is somewhat geared towards academic librarians, educators who work with college or graduate students can also benefit from the ideas discussed by the author. Strategies are provided for teaching in both the online and the classroom environments. This book contains summaries at the end of each chapter, as well as references to related material. Many examples are provided throughout the text, as well as tables and figures to help explain the material.

Reviewed by: Clanitra Stewart Nejd, Northern Illinois University College of Law Library, in 2018.