

Abstract of paper for the third International M-Libraries conference

Kolding Bibliotek

Slotssøvejen 4
6000 Kolding
Telefon 79 79 11 00
Telefax 79 79 11 58
EAN 5798005337058
E-mail bibliotek@kolding.dk
www.koldingbib.dk

Dato 8. oktober 2010
Sagsbehandler
Nicolai Dupont Heidemann
Direkte telefon +45 79 79
11 14
E-mail nidh@kolding.dk

Mobile Literacy at a public library

In the spring of 2010 Kolding Public Libraries in Denmark started a mobile (phone) literacy project for all 50 employees, who were all given a smartphone. The background was the cognition of the importance of the growing mobile culture. This culture affects how libraries' physical space can be used and demands new standards for library staff skills. Libraries have to be a part of the mobile culture if they want to continue to be able to provide relevant library services to users.

Project objectives:

- Develop staff's mobile phone capabilities and use these skills in the development of new mobile services and applications
- Gain experience with mobile technology, which will provide the basis for developing a mobile strategy
- Uncover the extent of how Kolding Public Libraries can use mobile technology in daily work

To attain these objectives, a mobile learning model was developed for the library staff. It contains exercises within the following areas:

- Camera functions, GPS, compass and MMS
- Facebook, Flickr and Gmail
- Video, including YouTube
- App-store

In addition, staff had to use their smartphone as much as possible in their daily work.

Mobile website and mobile strategy

The project has now completed and the objectives were achieved. In the autumn of 2010 Kolding Public Libraries will start to develop a new mobile website in Drupal where staff will be given a more central role in the specification, design and testing than in similar previous projects. The mobile site will be released in January 2011.

Challenges for staff.

The largest challenges in the project have been getting the staff to use the smartphones to search for information instead of waiting until they are seated at a PC. In addition, it has been a challenge to find enough time for all employees to participate in the project.

Overall, the project has been a success and the focus is now directed at establishing mobile services to users, integrating smartphones directly into library services and developing a mobile strategy for the library. These results will be presented at the third International M-Libraries conference.

Writer

Nicolai Dupont Heidemann
Library Director
Kolding Public Libraries
Slotssoevejen 4
6000 Kolding
Denmark
Email: nidh@kolding.dk
Phone: +4529276315