Library Expertise, Accessibility, and the Pivot to Online Teaching

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Move to Online Teaching

Presented instructors with new challenges and opportunities to re-think how they approached instruction

Accessibility Considerations in Online Learning

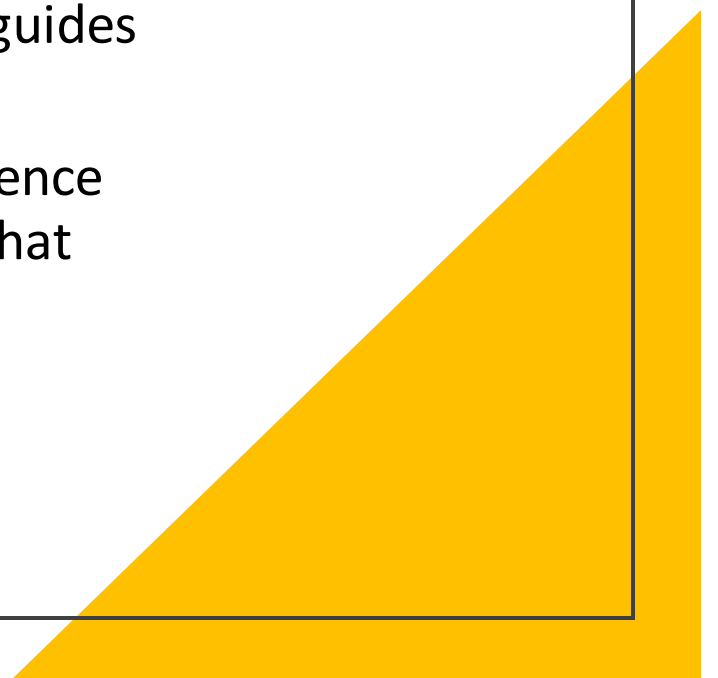Instructors began considering their role and responsibility with making their courses accessible
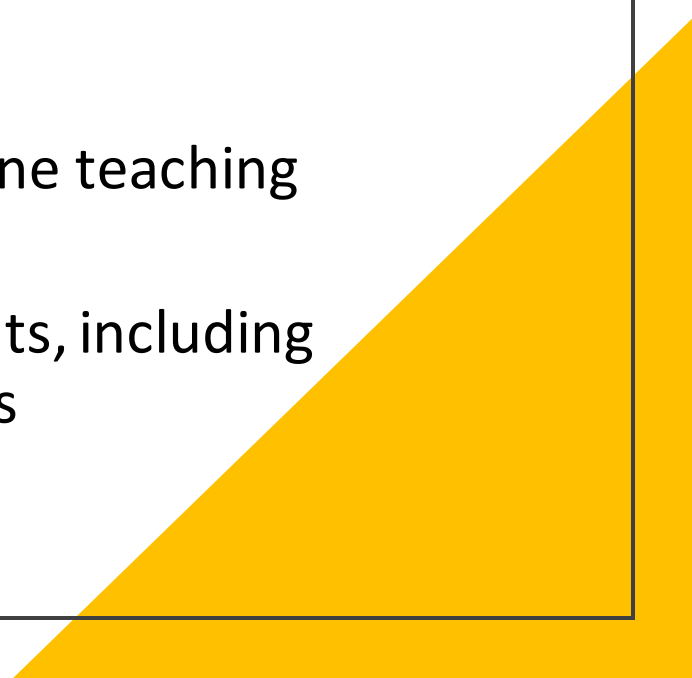
Existing Library Expertise

Accessibility:

- library space

- scanned readings by processing through optical character recognition and tagging documents

- using subtitles for library instruction, both in-person and asynchronous instruction

Supporting Students Online

- Creating online material for students, from library guides to videos

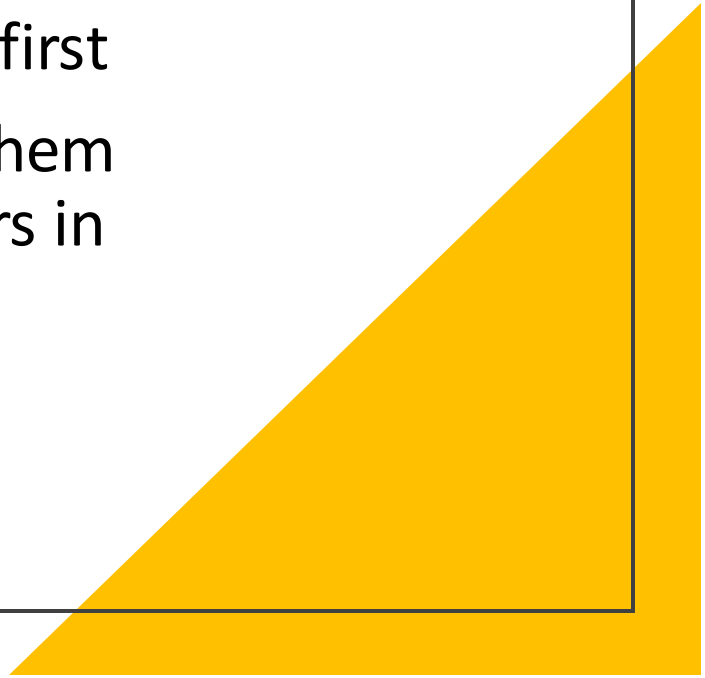- Providing remote reference support through ASK Chat service

Unearthing Library Expertise in Accessibility

- Learning Together Program

- Accessibility consultants at departmental meetings

- Demonstrated ways to incorporate accessibility into online teaching with existing technology (Microsoft Products and Zoom)

- Created documentation on creating accessible documents, including captioning for live lectures and adding captions to videos

Our Take-aways

- At a moment when everyone was thinking about technology, we found space to think about humans first
- Sharing our expertise with instructors encouraged them to explore strategies for supporting different learners in varying learning environments

Thank you !

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