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MEETING ABSTRACT

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New roles of research libraries in lifelong education and training: Coffee Lectures, Menu Cards and PhD Courses

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The foundations for lifelong learning cannot be laid early enough. Bachelor students must already be aware that in the digital age and in a knowledge-driven environment lifelong learning is a prerequisite for continuing success. The subject-specific education needs to be complemented with the training of skills that allow researchers to stay-up-to date, *i. e.* information retrieval and knowledge management skills. We believe that research libraries will have to play an important role in teaching these skill sets, complementing the teaching activities of the faculty members. Thus, libraries need to develop an education and training concept that starts with first-year students and continues with PhD students up to senior researchers. At ETH Zurich, we have established such a program for chemistry and life sciences, including three new formats that we successfully utilize in our education and teaching activities. Coffee Lectures, 10-min presentations with tips and tricks on databases and tools, were introduced in 2013. Numerous university libraries in Germany and Switzerland have meanwhile adapted this format. In 2014 we developed another format, a 1 ECTS PhD course. This course is unique as it reflects the research cycle, mapping the use of information and knowledge management and analyses tools to the various steps of the research process. The latest format, introduced in 2015, is Research Group Menus. They are given on request to research groups, which can select from an annually updated menu card, with starters, main courses, specials and desserts corresponding to various information solutions. With these activities we actively contribute to the continuing education of professors, researchers and students ensuring that well-educated students and researchers make their way into academia and industry.

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