Evidence-based practice: a **revolution** in library project management

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★ Objective

Devise a scaleable project planning template which incorporates evidence-based methods.

★ Methodology

- Review of existing project management literature and tools
- Identify 'common denominator' processes for project planning
- Analyze 3 library projects to understand information behaviors in the process of planning
- Validate findings with retrospective, open-ended interviews and participant observation
- Build new template for use by Duke's planning groups

★ Findings

- Use of external information in the planning process is extremely limited
- Project documentation did not encourage follow-up evaluation or dissemination
- Reconstruction of projects was difficult due to insufficient documentation and human memory instability

The well-built question in project management

- **Setting:** Duke University Medical Center Library
- **Perspective (stakeholders):** Library work groups
- **Intervention:** Evidence-based project management
- **Comparison:** Existing Project management processes
- **Evaluation:** Review and discussion with staff with later evaluation of initial implementation

★ Results: a model for action

New project template includes key elements of evidence-based practice, along with core components of traditional planning:

- Consideration of stakeholder needs
- Specific deliverables
- Time frame and sequencing for project
- Searching for evidence to answer important questions
- Identification and review of existing data, literature and practices, including benchmarks
- Evaluation of existing documentation for relevance and usefulness using a checklist
- Built-in evaluation planning and benchmarking
- Documented project planning process
- Dissemination and benchmarking built in to process

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