



# Self-Assessment Skills for Lifelong Learning

Margy MacMillan  
Instructional Librarian, Mount Royal College,  
Calgary, AB, Canada

<http://www2.mtroyal.ab.ca/~mmacmillan/conf/lw2006.p>

# Why is Self-Assessment Important?

- Prompts reflection
- Can build self-efficacy
- Key life skill for students

## Why is Reflection Important?

- Students don't always know what they know.

# A Tool for Self-Assessment

- The I-SKILLS Résumé
  - Easily understood, simple format
  - Low cost
  - Provides insight on what students think is important
  - Provides information to the student they can actually use



**I-SKILLS Résumé (see handout)**  
**(Information Skills and Knowledge for Lifelong Learning Success)**

**Personal:** *(Name)*

**Special Expertise:** *(What kinds of info or topics are you especially adept at finding/evaluating/using)*

**Education:** *(What classes, training, reading, self teaching etc. have you done in the area of information skills)*

**Experience:** *(what types of information can you find and what tools can you use – e.g. article databases, library catalogues, deep web sites, laws, addresses, etc)*

**Other:** *(Anything else pertaining to your information finding/evaluating/usage skills you'd like an employer to know, e.g. citing/analysing/bias checking)*

# I-SKILLS Research Project

- Long-term project – 2002-2008
- Assessing information skills of journalism students

## Key Research Questions

- Does it prompt reflection on information literacy?
- Is the résumé and/or the reflection it prompts useful in seeking employment?

# Does It Prompt Reflection?

Jeff Harris

“What I am most pleased with is the increase in my knowledge base. I found it amusing that I used the word “muddled” in regards to working on the internet last year. I feel that I have grown so much I do not even remember that person anymore.”

“I would really like a refresher course on research now that I think about it.”

Brad Linn



# How Does the I-SKILLS Résumé Prompt Reflection?

- Encourages recall of skills
- Encourages articulation of skills
- Shows development of skills over time
- Provides a tangible record of skills for other purposes



How else can we prompt reflection?



# Other Resources

- Research Page
  - Links to ongoing literature review, other presentations, articles, etc.
  - <http://www2.mtroyal.ca/~mmacmillan/research.htm>
- I-Skills Résumé Wiki
  - Ideas for using the résumé tool
  - [http://www.seedwiki.com/wiki/i-skills\\_resume/](http://www.seedwiki.com/wiki/i-skills_resume/)