LibGuides Redesign Project

Mount Holyoke College
Chrissa Godbout, Alice Whiteside, Sarah Oelker, Lori Detloff

Nedda Amhed Workshop
Learn from an expert

Libguide and web design workshop at UMass with Nedda Ahmed

Learn from others
Learn from other institutions

Environmental Scan

⬇

Share with RIS, activity and discussion

⬇

Pilot Redesigns

Learn from our students
Observe students using guides

Wants
- Links on homepage in addition to tabs
- Descriptions of databases/resources
- Less text in general
- Consistent tabs
- Chat box

Observations of behavior
- Misunderstanding of LibGuides search box
- Tab headings sometimes confusing

Ask our students
Participatory design workshop

Drop-in feedback activity

What are Research Guides?

A group of webpages that point to useful resources (ex. databases, websites, services) for research in a particular subject area.

What do I do today?

Draw /sketch /describe how YOUR ideal research guide would look.

- • Feel free to use multiple pages
- •Chat with us about your ideas
- •Not an artist? List or describe what you would like to see
- •Never used a research guide? No problem! Start with your ideas.

Ask our students
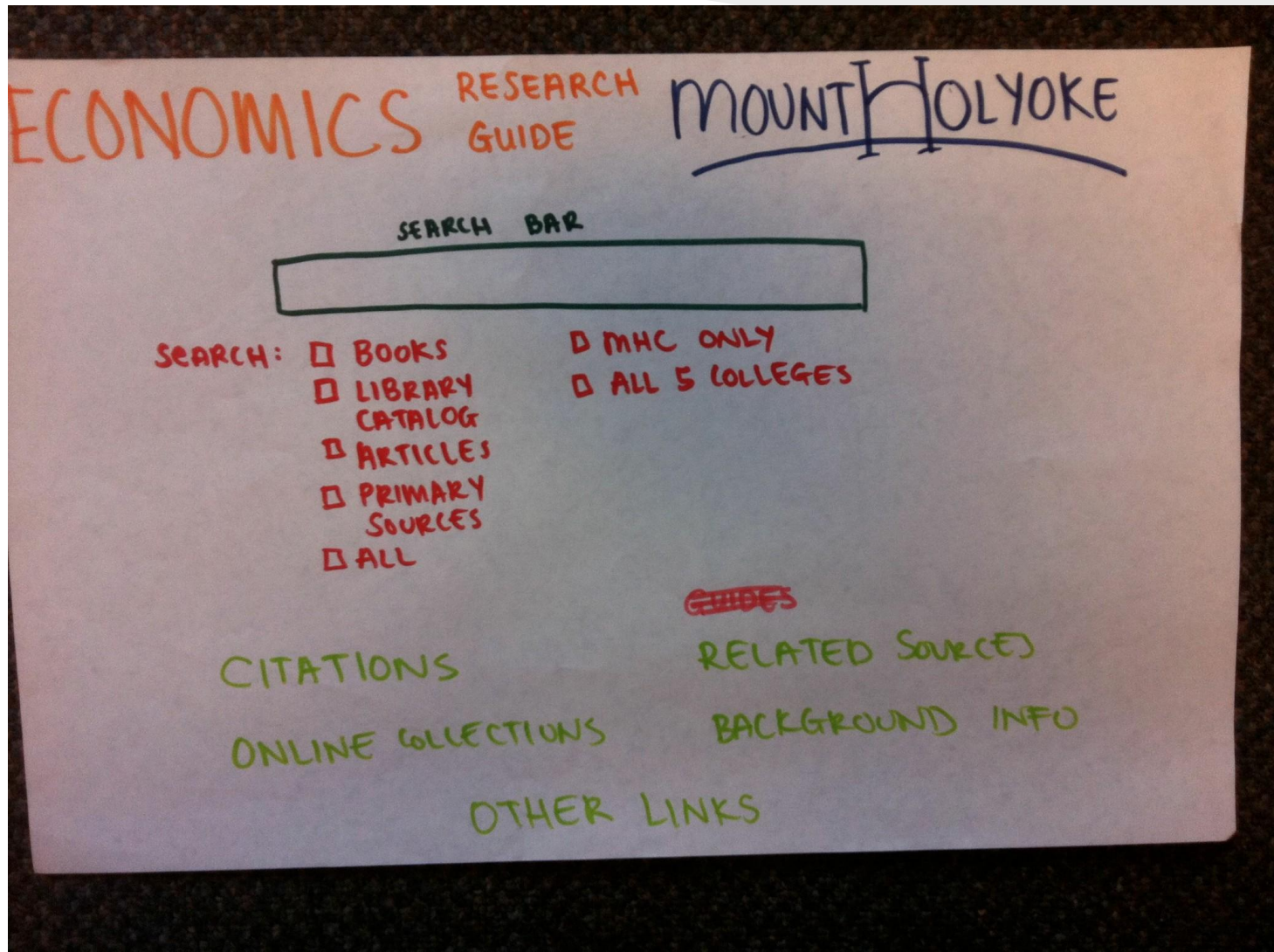*Participatory design workshop*

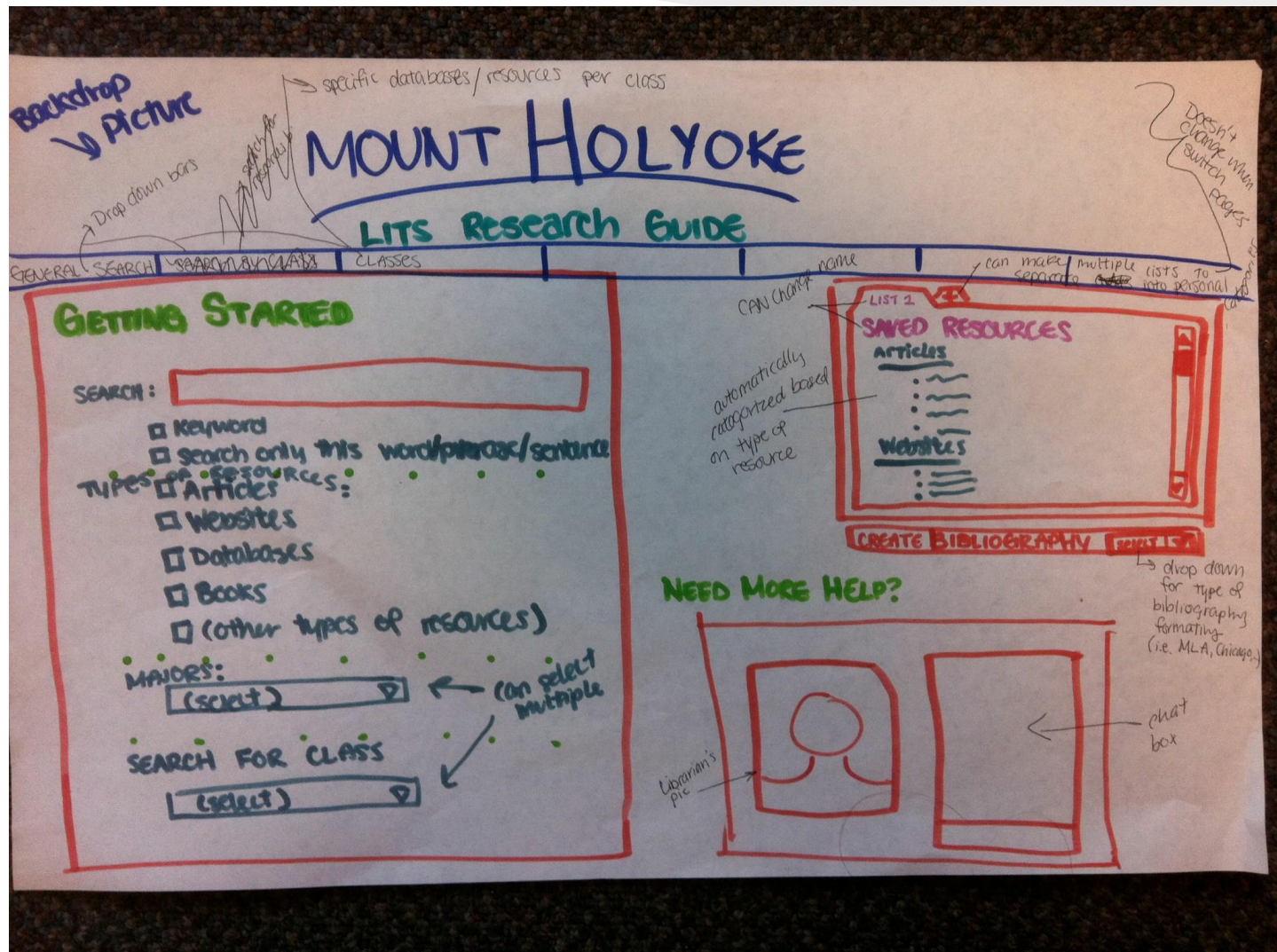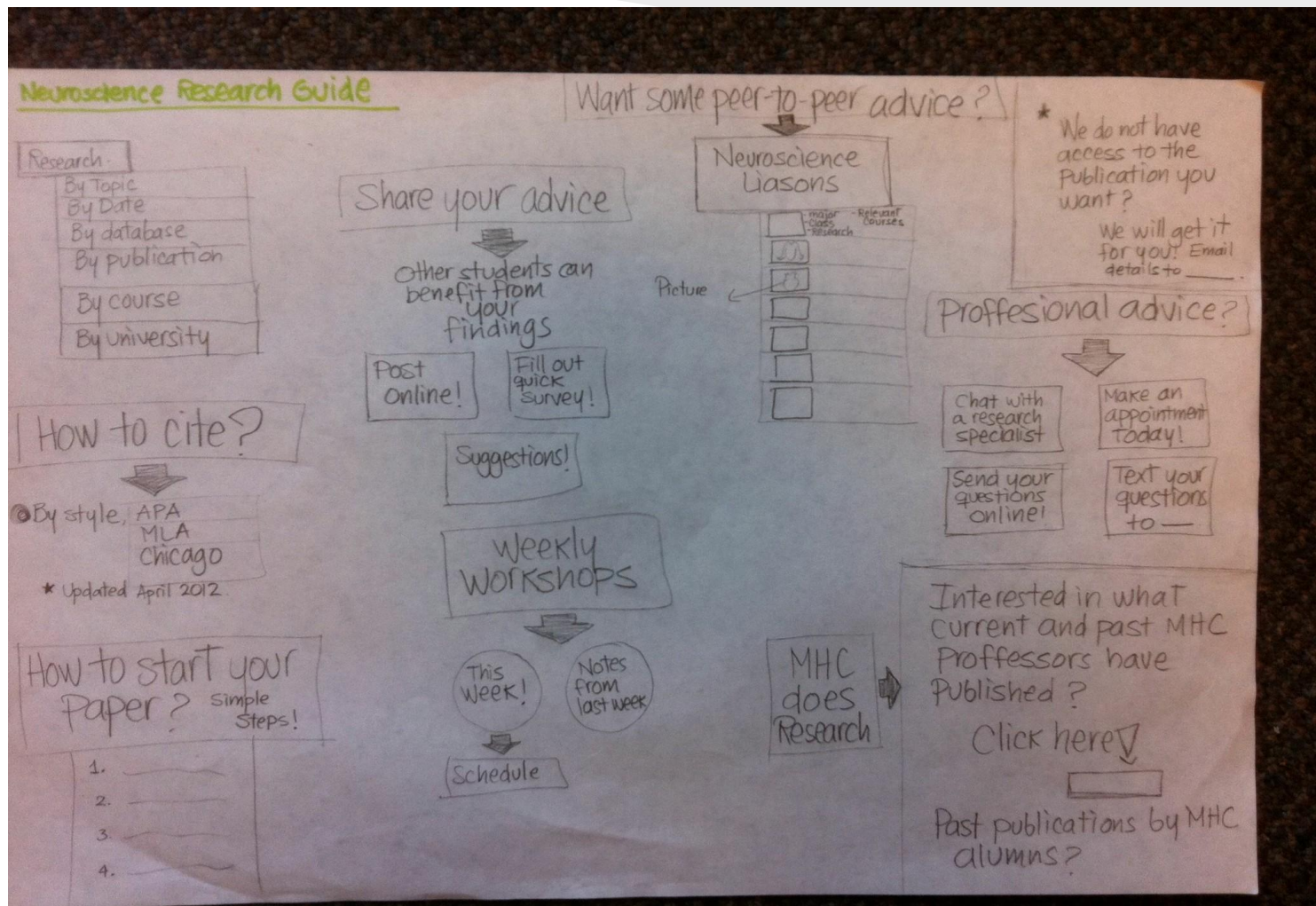# Ask our students
Participatory design workshop

Ask our students
Participatory design workshop

Ask our students
Participatory design workshop

Ask our students
Participatory design workshop

Ask our students
Participatory design workshop
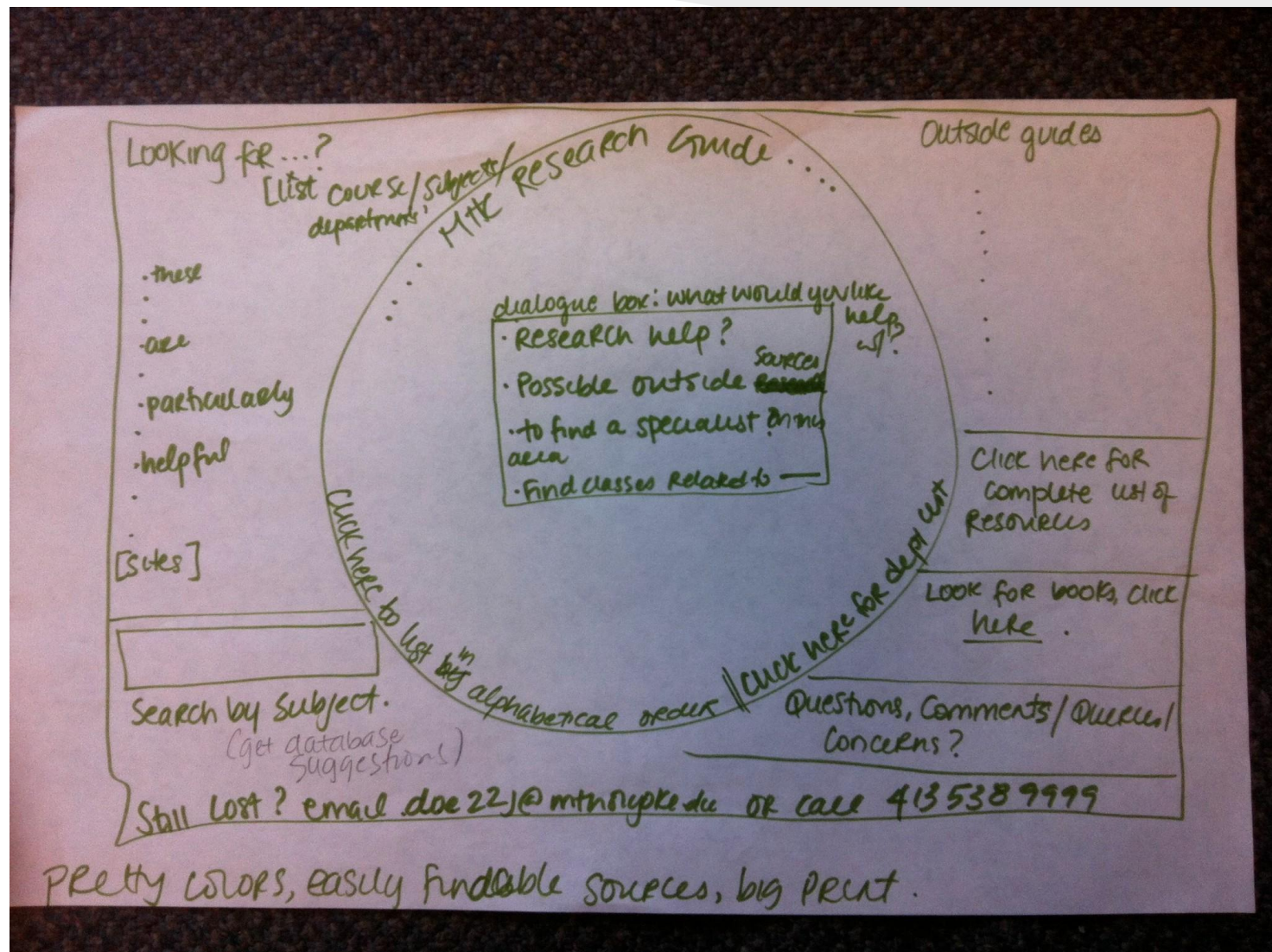
Student Session Analysis

design:

simple/cleaner design - 12

color - 9

images (more!) - 7

consistency (design, also lang. - e.g. tabs) - 6

fewer boxes - 5

fewer tabs - 5

consistent menu/bar/search@top - 4

readable fonts - 2

links instead of tabs - 2 (**drawings did not include tabs)

content:

databases by subject - 11

Help (chat, email, phone, form) - 8 ("not on every page" - 1)

one big search box - 8

    (w. format limits) - 7

    limit by time period -1

how to cite (by style) - 7

Faculty bibliographies, alum bibliographies (works by) - 4

Link in/include/link to professor expertise - 2

Student input - advice, suggestions, survey (interactive) - 2

how to's/tutorials/videos - 2

list of sites/databases - 2

description of databases/resources - 2

Weekly workshop schedule (Peer2Peer workshops, etc.) - 1

Featured article - 1

dreaming big:

"Related content" next to search results - 2

animation - 2

    (+jorge) - 1

integrated citation manager - 1

links to search/"automatic search" for info on "common topics" -1

previously used works -1

Language/access points:

By format of sources - 10
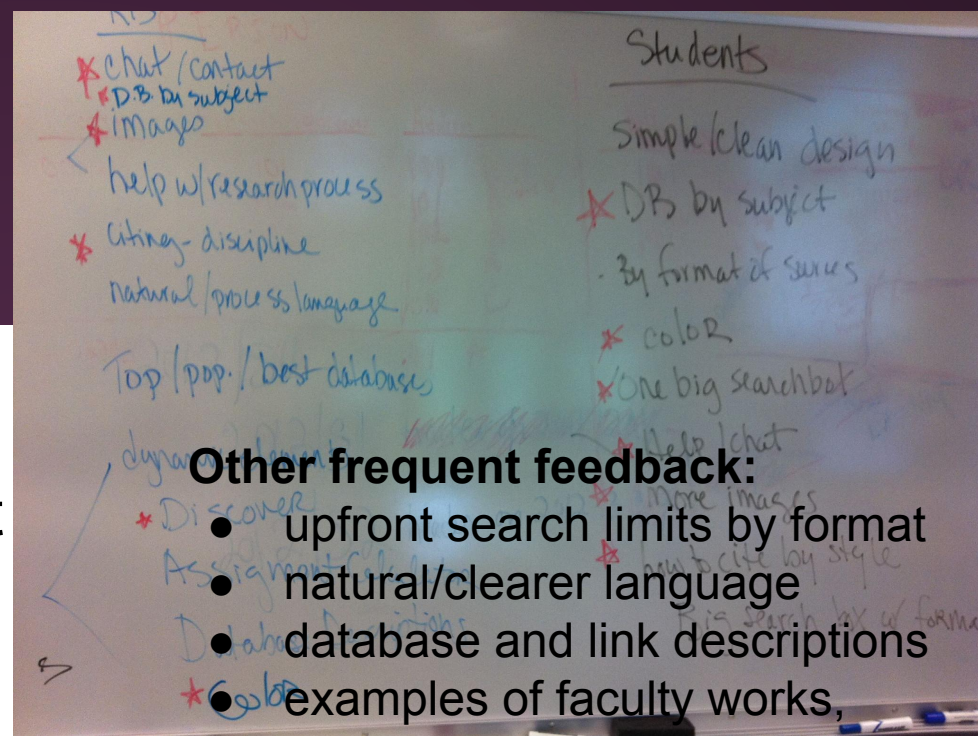
Entry by class/major - 6

"What are you looking for?" (question lang.) - 3

Navigation by point in research process - 1

RIS + Student

Top in both groups
- databases listed by subject
- prominent chat/contact
- color
- discipline specific citation guidance
- Discover/one big search box
- more images
- simpler, cleaner design

Other frequent feedback:
- upfront search limits by format
- natural/clearer language
- database and link descriptions
- examples of faculty works, student bibliographies, and searches
- help with research process (ex. assignment calculator)
- indicate best database to start with

New Template Draft
In progress!

http://guides.
mtholyoke.edu
/newtemplate