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Digital Badges in Academic Libraries: Perspectives and Opportunities

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PennState



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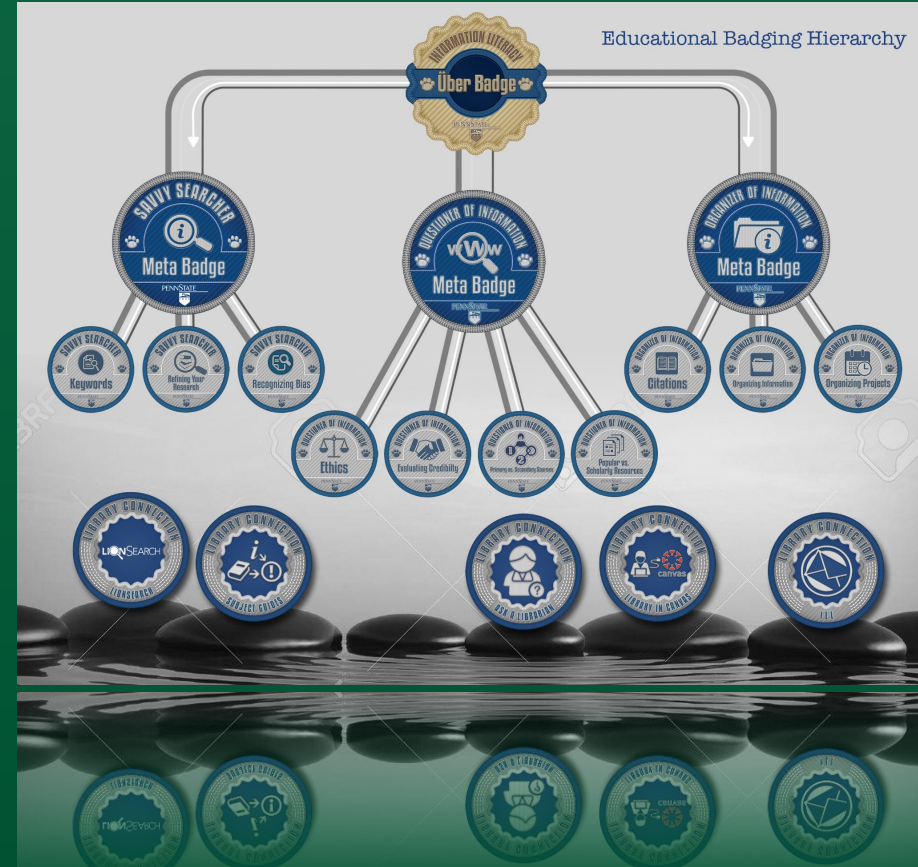
Digital Badges in Academic Libraries

We will share:

- Insights from two institutions' digital badge programs
- Opportunities offered by the Association of College and Research Libraries' Digital Badge Interest Group

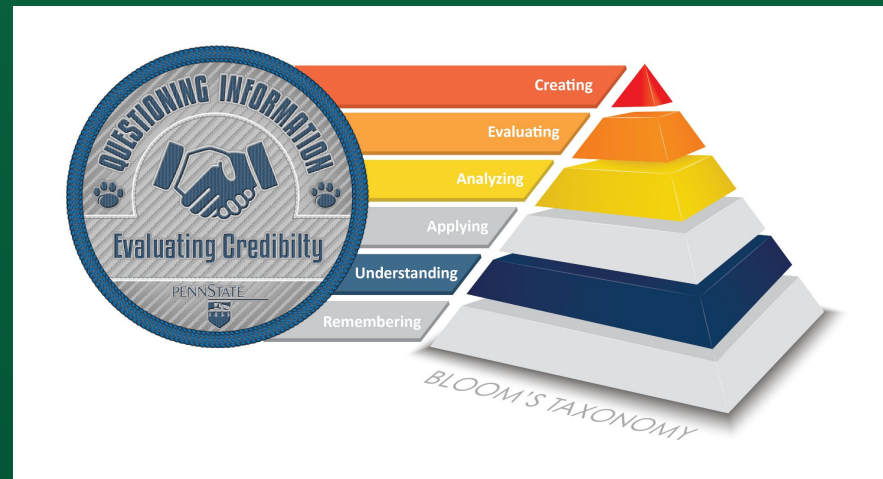
@ Penn State

- Large research university but no information literacy requirement
- Created badges to be used in courses
- Started in 2013, grew to 15 badges
- Initially used a “home grown” badge platform
- In transition to a new platform



@ Penn State, lessons learned

- Start small with a pilot program
- Have the badge be “meaningful”
 - See: “[Employer Perceptions of Critical Information Literacy Skills and Digital Badges](#)”
- Align them with standards or strategic goals
 - E.g. Bloom’s taxonomy





Badges @ University of New Hampshire

- R1 research university (15,00 FTE)
- Library badges began in 2017
 - Badgr platform
- Campus wide pilot 2019
 - Credly platform
- Two digital badges for first year business research program (500 students)
 - Library Research Basics
 - Market Research Badges
- Articulating workforce skill development





Lessons from UNH

- Shared vocabulary, taxonomy, branding, and platform across institution provides a foundation for growth and success
- Integration into business program has been a key to success for the library badges
- Provided a sustainable alternative to library instruction for solo subject librarian





ACRL's Digital Badge Interest Group

Mission: Provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas related to digital badges and micro-credentials, particularly as they relate to libraries (of all types) and information literacy.

- Over 500 current members
- Opportunities
 - Virtual programs (Spring and Fall)
 - Discussion board (ALA Connect)
 - <https://acrl.libguides.com/digitalbadgeinterestgroup>

THANK YOU



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