Do online libraries impact on student success?

Kirsty Baker, Digital Services Project Officer
Would there be a similar relationship at the Open University, an open and distance learning institution?

“Analysis of the …data reveals a strong correlation between students’ grades and use of information resources the library provides.”

University of Wollongong
Data sources

Library

- EZproxy
- OpenAthens

Institutional systems

- Student data: module & results

Dataset:
- Student ID
- E-resource use
- Module details
- Results
E-resource access by level

Mean e-resource accessed per student by undergraduate level - autumn 2015 module starts (n=86,954)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Mean e-resources accessed per student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>41.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mean e-resources accessed per student by undergraduate level by result - autumn 2015 module starts (n=86,954)

- **Fail**: Level 1 - 3.2, Level 2 - 8.7, Level 3 - 21.8
- **Pass**: Level 1 - 6.9, Level 2 - 18.8, Level 3 - 40.4
- **Distinction**: Level 1 - 13.0, Level 2 - 25.0, Level 3 - 55.7
What next…?

- Statistical tests for significance
- Study with Social Work degree

See our blog for more info:

http://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/librarydata/