

[Print](#) - [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Feedback--and a thank you!:)**Date:** Tue, 15 May 2007 10:58:53 -0400**From:** "George Hart" <George.Hart@umb.edu>**To:** jhrcoe@yahoo.com

Jan--

I really enjoyed reading your thesis. You do a fantastic job of bringing together the three areas of library instruction, critical thinking and problem-based learning. And your literature review is extremely helpful.

The highest compliment I can pay your work is that I am inspired by it in several ways. First, I have begun downloading and reading many of the articles that you cite. Second, I am reviewing the work that we do here in terms of your conceptual framework. You add a lot of breadth and depth to library instruction, and having been exposed to your work I want to share it with my colleagues and within our practice. And the last kudo to you combines the first two in that your thesis makes me look differently at what it means to be a professional librarian; in particular in terms of being more reflective about what I do. So much library literature is stilted and numbing, as are so many library conferences, that I have been abstaining from professional activity. But you have inspired me by providing a way back in--through your critical thinking perspective.

Your statement of the library instruction *problematique* is perfect. "One shot" instruction is never very effective, but the ways to collaborate with faculty on discipline-based assignments are unclear and time consuming. You do a wonderful job of presenting this situation as a practical problem, in context. You might be curious to see our library's recent collaborative efforts at: <http://healeylibrary.wikispaces.com/>. As you see, we are struggling with the instruction problem in many ways.

Our struggle is pretty common too. That is why your thesis is so valuable. **I hope you will publish your work, and will continue on the path you have been pursuing. You will benefit all librarians if you do.**

There are many points I could comment on, but my main point is how fascinating, engaging and effective your work is. Perhaps we could establish a 'hailing frequency' and share ongoing developments in our work. We have a brainstorming wiki we share at: <https://healeystorm.wikispaces.com/>. I am not sure how active it will be, but feel free to participate. We also have a library blog at: <http://umblibrary.typepad.com/hlbeacon/>. I plan to share your paper with one of my colleagues, Tina Mullins, who created the library blog. I am certain she will learn as much from it as I did.

Jan, thank you so much for sharing your work. You will have a big influence on how we develop instruction at our library.

All the best,

George