Even in a digital world, health sciences students enjoy using a pocket-sized print book to learn about library services.

INTRO:
• Librarians Carrie Forbes & Kathy Cable wanted to know if health sciences students would still appreciate or want a print resource to learn about library services. The idea for creating a book came from observing medical students using a small department-produced pocket guide to clinical resources on their rounds. Our Purple Book needed to be pocket-sized, contain general library information with shortened bit.ly links to help students access information quickly.

METHODS
1. Librarians brainstormed for FAQ’s about library resources and services.
2. Created pocket guide in Microsoft Publisher.
4. Presented “The Purple Book” to library staff for review and critique.
5. Printed a test run of 20 pocket guides.
6. Displayed pocket guides in library and all were taken within 2 days.

RESULTS
• After successful distribution of all initial test “Purple Books”, the librarians made a proposal to the library director for funds to produce additional guides for the Fall semester.
• With Director approval, quotes were obtained from three companies. Using the least expensive option, 200 “Purple Books” were printed for Fall 2019. As of August 21, 2019, nearly all guides have been distributed and another 200 “Purple Books” have been ordered.

The Purple Book
A Project in Print

PRESENTERS: Carrie Forbes, MLS
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Sample Pages:

Take a picture to see our corresponding LibGuide, with a Microsoft Publisher template available for download.