**Jeremy Graham**

I am the first-year coordinator for the dental students and as part of that I'm a subject coordinator for two subjects, Dental Science A which is only for dental students, and Oral Health Science A which is for the two cohorts, Bachelor of Oral Health Science and for the dental students. We run this module in OHA in the first three weeks of semester one so that they get a chance to find the library, use the library, know how to use the library, from the very outset.

Because we regard this as an essential part of being a dentist and a dental professional, where you do have to use references in your future professional life, we had to put it into a unit, the two others we just couldn't do it so it was in OHA. Thankfully I arrived after the scene, after it had been set up, where it had been set up in two Oral Health Science A and we opted to keep it in that. I think it is more for the use of the students in the future. The dental students in DSA, they do do a zoo assignment of 1200 words, where of course references are essential and it just gets them into the swing of using references from the very outset. I'm unsure about the use of the references by the Bachelor of Oral Health Sciences, they have a completely different slant their course is only 2 1/2 years and it's much more perhaps practically based, but certainly as a practising dentist you do need to know how to use references, where to find them and of course if you write an article or a thesis or whatever, of course references are essential.

In OHA we have this library task as a hurdle. Being a dental professional and having the opportunity to speak to the students before they do this first practical and before they do the first enquiry research module, I can tell them that it's a hurdle, it's not worth any marks, it doesn't matter if you pass or you fail, the fact is that you must learn how to use the library facilities. If we find that students do not do well, we get them in not officially not by any stretch, we say look you need more tutoring, go and see Tracy or anybody else at the library, get some more time into it so that you know how to use the library task so you know how to use the library resources for the future.

Well I suppose it's a little bit hard because we have this library task in first semester so we don't get a chance at all to see the student's writing capability before that. As part of Dental Science A one of my units, I do have a zoo assignment as an assessment that is worth 10% of the marks for that subject and I found and Tracy and I have found, that with those assignments the use of the references by the students is very very good, it is used in the correct context, sometimes they may be too many references, sometimes there are too few references but they do refer to a text that they used in that assignment very very well so I believe that is a lot to do with the library task that they do at the beginning of first semester.

Oh yes it is very much embedded into Oral Health Science A. It is an essential part of the curriculum. We do have it as part of one of the intended learning outcomes, to be proficient in the use of library resources and there is yes, we will continue to use this library task for sure.