a Social Library

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STEAL THIS IDEA!

Outcomes

Holly Ristau

Our learners are using social-software tools in their libraries!

Linda Bedwell

Karen Pardue

Reegan Breu

Lessons Learned

Participants should:

Read	AND	Write (share, reflect)
Listen	AND	Speak
Watch others work	AND	Do the work themselves
Asynchronously	AND	Synchronously

In large groups
In small groups
With facilitators
With presenters
With each other!

Organizers should:

Prepare	AND	Be flexible
Let presenters prepare their own work	AND	Be prepared to reformat, especially for file size!
Have specific learning objectives in mind	AND	Go where student needs take you
Use technologies you know	AND	Experiment, then discard or adopt

Reactions

"This course will always remain a highlight of my library career."

"And I am surprised now at how at home I feel with all the new vocabulary I learned in this class – now I am the librarian who all the other librarians are asking to explain new technologies – never thought that I would be that person!"
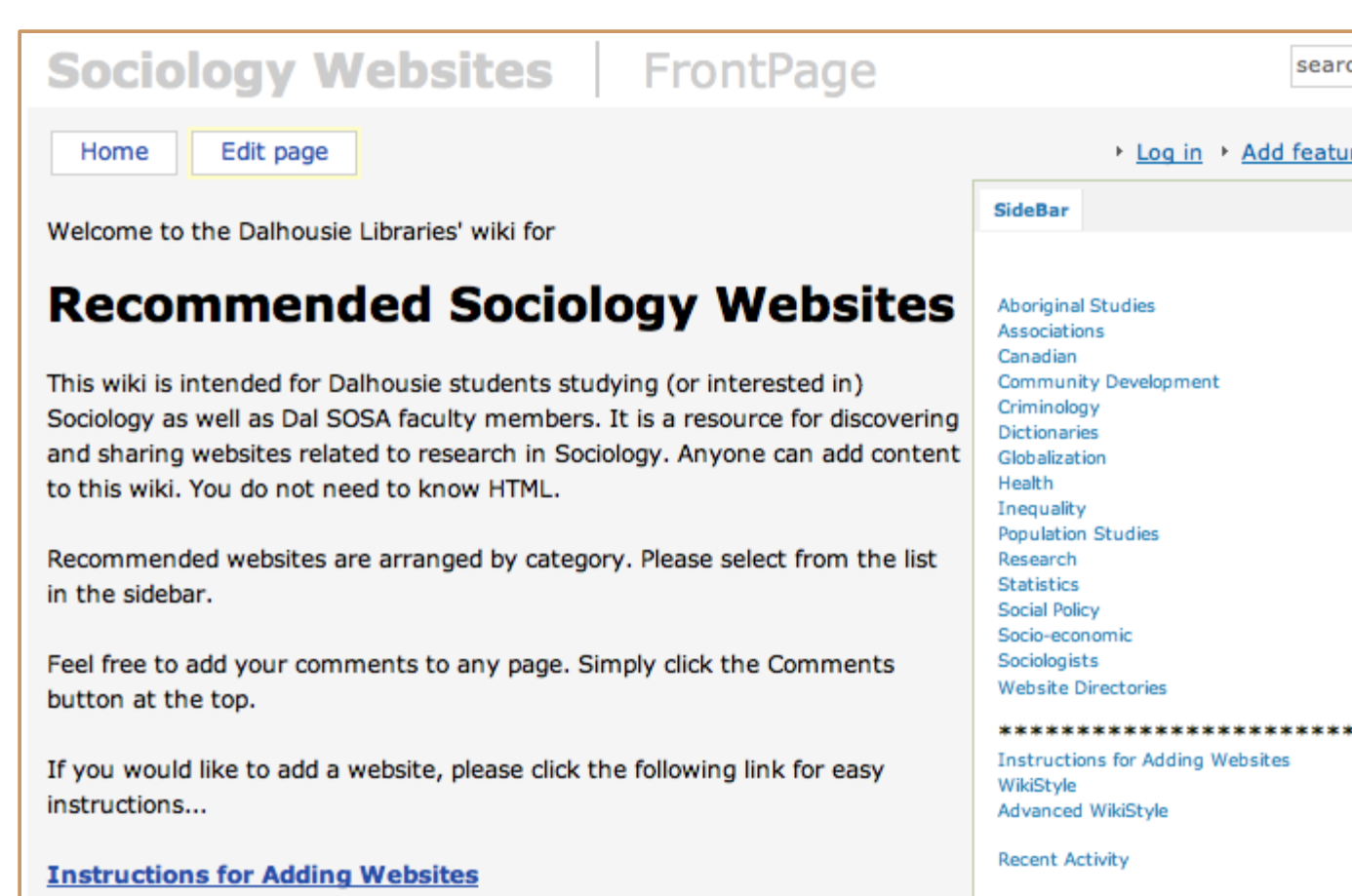
"In just a short time, I created 2 wikis, a book discussion group web page that pulls in RSS feeds, developed a blog, and I am completely obsessed with Flickr. I couldn't stop!"

"The most unexpected outcome of all this is how much I know and how familiar I am with it all. I really didn't expect that. But, social software now is like a comfortable old shoe that fits nicely and something that I reach for as a solution."
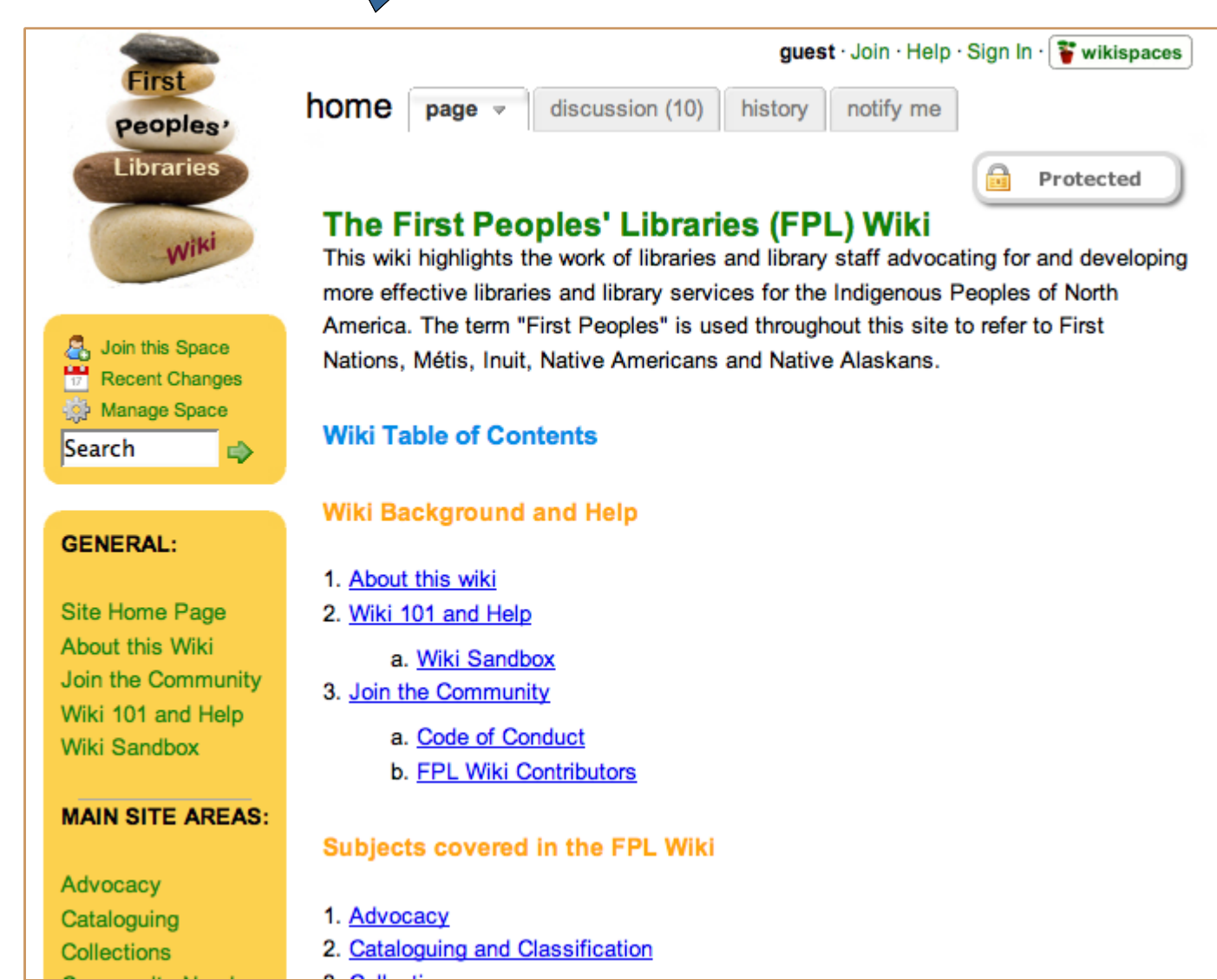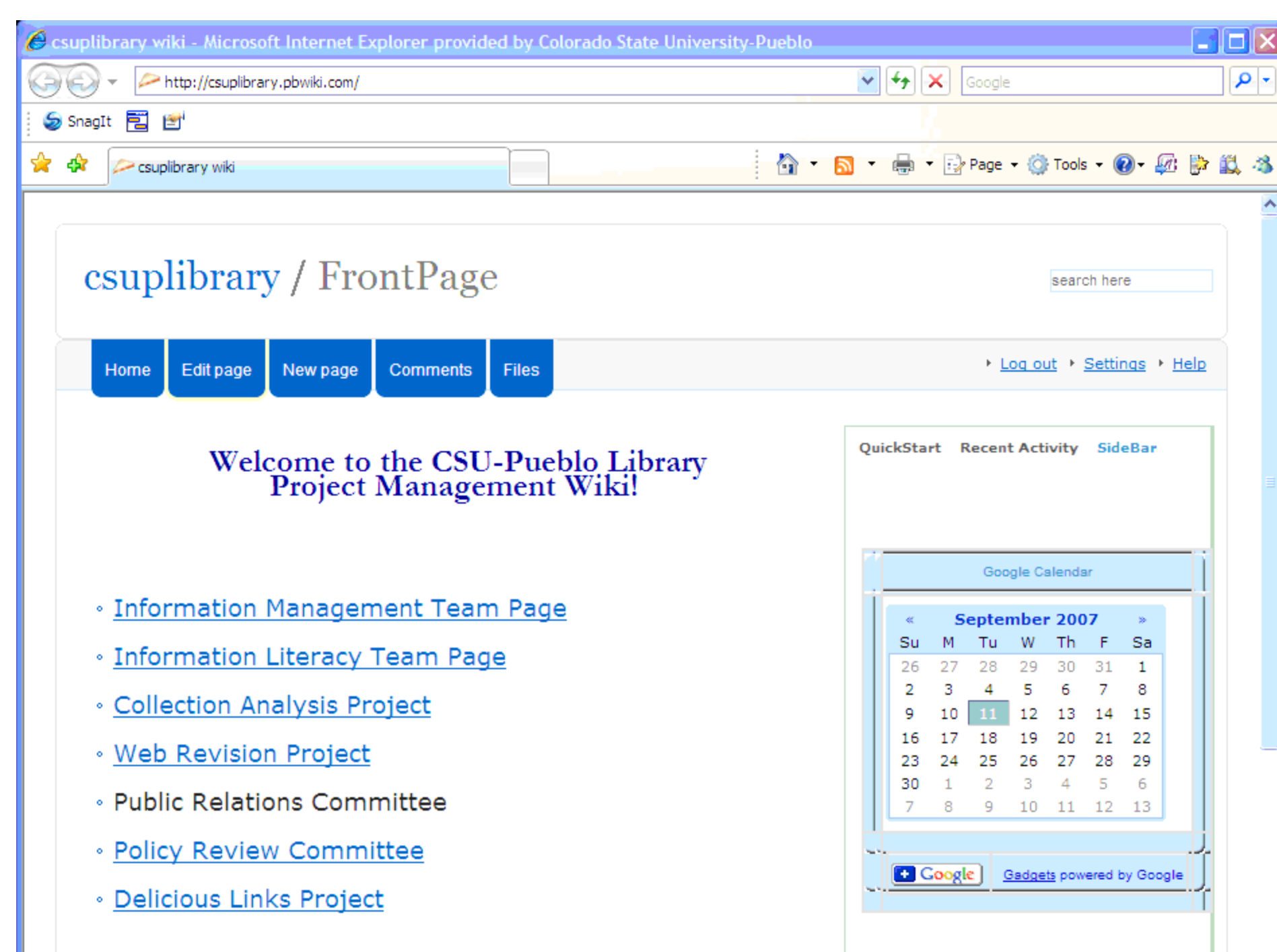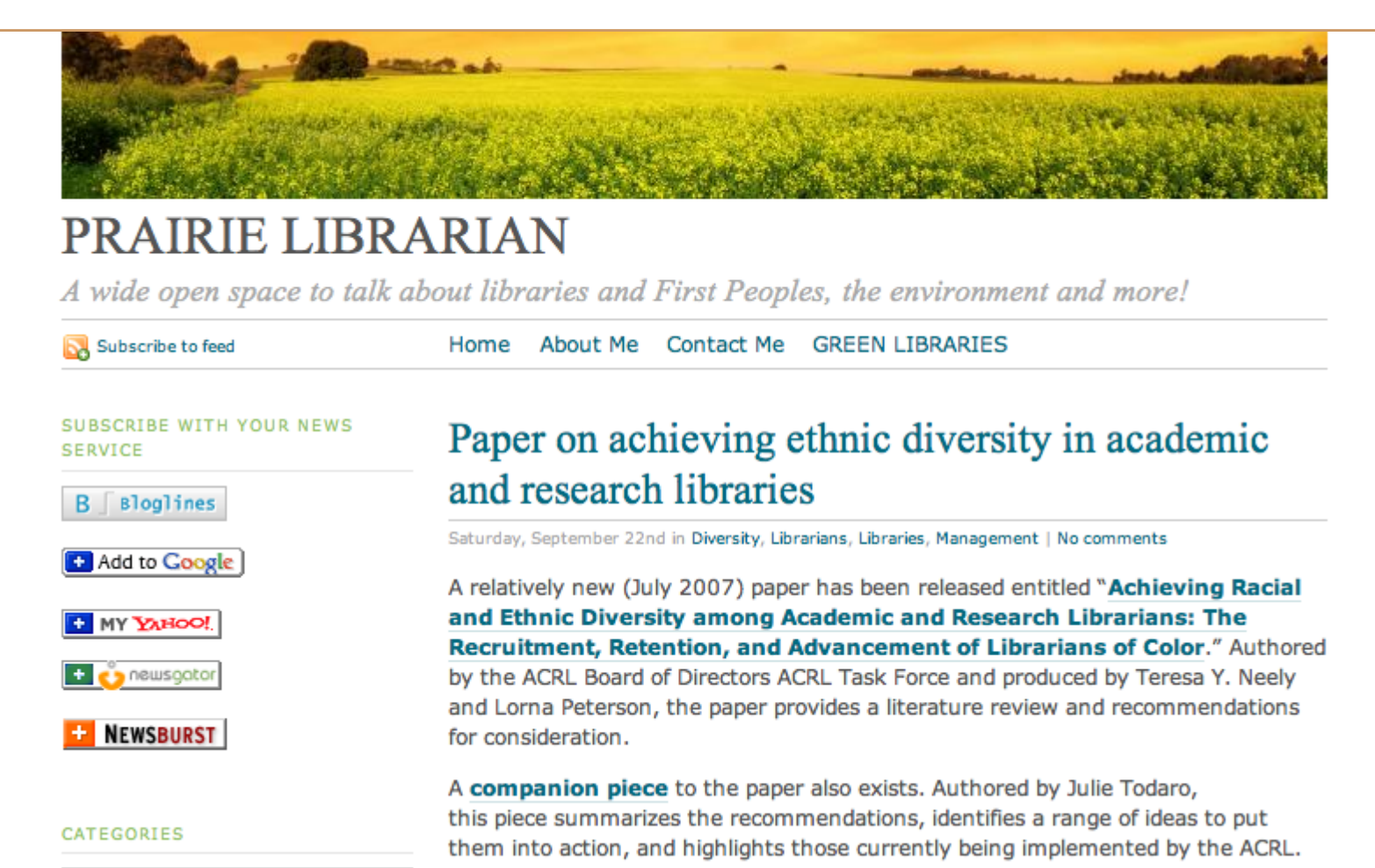
"My favorite part... is the variety of ways to learn... Each part built on the others to help deepen my understanding. Also, it was great being assigned to a specific group. That helped me to feel that I had some more personal collaborators... Great encouragement too."

Our learners are teaching other librarians!

Holly Ristau

"Really, my favorite experience has been the interaction with fellow librarians, whether in chat or comments on the blog posts. It's a rare activity for me to be able to talk about technology such as we have with other librarians, and that has been great."

[M]y favorite part of the course was the homework (a.k.a. activities). Without the expectation of producing something every week, it would have been very easy to put everything else off with good intentions of catching up later but never getting around to it. There's no replacement for getting in there and getting your hands dirty, and it provides a point of reference for everything else."

See for yourself!

Linda Bedwell

http://sociallibraries.com/course