

Research engagement of health sciences librarians: a survey of research-related activities and attitudes

Susan Lessick, MA, MLS, AHIP, FMLA; Carol Perryman, PhD; Brooke L. Billman, MA, AHIP; Kristine M. Alpi, MLS, MPH, AHIP; Sandy L. De Groote, MLIS, AHIP; Ted D. Babin Jr.

Table 18
Barriers to research, by work affiliation

	Academic		Hospital		Other		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Lack of time allotted to research at work								
Very important	140	57%	131	74%	51	72%	322	65%
Somewhat important	75	30%	38	21%	15	21%	128	26%
Not important	31	13%	9	5%	5	7%	45	9%
Total	246	100%	178	100%	71	100%	495	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=495)=15.91; p=0.003.$

Lack of training in research design and methods								
Very important	102	41%	84	47%	28	39%	214	43%
Somewhat important	91	37%	68	38%	23	32%	182	37%
Not important	53	22%	26	15%	21	29%	100	20%
Total	246	100%	178	100%	72	100%	496	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=496)=7.55; p=0.109.$

Lack of funding for research training								
Very important	93	39%	84	48%	31	43%	208	43%
Somewhat important	78	32%	68	39%	21	29%	167	34%
Not important	70	29%	24	14%	20	28%	114	23%
Total	241	100%	176	100%	72	100%	489	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=489)=14.87; p=0.005.$

Lack of time to acquire research skills								
Very important	94	38%	96	55%	32	44%	222	45%
Somewhat important	91	37%	52	30%	20	28%	163	33%
Not important	61	25%	28	16%	20	28%	109	22%
Total	246	100%	176	100%	72	100%	494	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=494)=13.44; p=0.009.$

Lack of statistical support								
Very important	98	40%	75	42%	29	41%	202	41%
Somewhat important	86	35%	70	40%	26	37%	182	37%
Not important	59	24%	32	18%	16	23%	107	22%
Total	243	100%	177	100%	71	100%	491	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=491)=2.42; p=0.660.$

	Academic		Hospital		Other		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Lack of tools, databases, and resources to navigate library research literature								
Very important	24	10%	39	22%	25	35%	88	18%
Somewhat important	66	27%	75	42%	17	24%	158	32%
Not important	153	63%	63	36%	30	42%	246	50%
Total	243	100%	177	100%	72	100%	492	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=492)=47.62; p=0.000.$

Lack of existing research articles on applicable topics								
Very important	27	11%	25	14%	16	22%	68	14%
Somewhat important	98	40%	84	47%	25	35%	207	42%
Not important	117	48%	68	38%	31	43%	216	44%
Total	242	100%	177	100%	72	100%	491	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=491)=9.51; p=0.050.$

Lack of mentorship by experienced researchers								
Very important	76	31%	66	38%	26	36%	168	34%
Somewhat important	95	39%	73	41%	28	39%	196	40%
Not important	73	30%	37	21%	18	25%	128	26%
Total	244	100%	176	100%	72	100%	492	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=492)=4.63; p=0.327.$

Lack of employer support (training, release time, clerical support, etc.)								
Very important	90	37%	100	56%	33	46%	223	45%
Somewhat important	74	30%	55	31%	24	34%	153	31%
Not important	82	33%	23	13%	14	20%	119	24%
Total	246	100%	178	100%	71	100%	495	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=495)=27.63; p=0.000.$

Lack of financial incentives								
Very important	72	30%	60	34%	23	32%	155	31%
Somewhat important	84	34%	67	38%	21	29%	172	35%
Not important	88	36%	50	28%	28	39%	166	34%
Total	244	100%	177	100%	72	100%	493	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=493)=4.32; p=0.365.$

Lack of funding for research projects								
Very important	89	37%	73	41%	32	45%	194	40%
Somewhat important	98	41%	76	43%	23	32%	197	41%
Not important	52	22%	27	15%	16	23%	95	20%
Total	239	100%	176	100%	71	100%	486	100%

$\chi^2(4, n=486)=5.00; p=0.287.$