

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

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APPENDIX

Research activities of librarians survey

Welcome.

Please help the MLA Research Section Strategic Planning Committee by completing this brief survey. The survey will inform the Research Section's Strategic Plan and will further our understanding of the research behaviors of members. It will also help the Research Section react quickly to issues affecting members and the quality of their membership experience. This survey should only take about 10 minutes. Your answers will be completely anonymous. Survey summaries will be reported in *Hypothesis* (the Research Section journal publication) and MLA-FOCUS. Participants in the survey will have the opportunity of entering into a drawing for \$200 toward a 2011 MLA conference registration.

If you have any questions, please contact Strategic Planning Committee Chair Susan Lessick, AHIP, FMLA, at slessick@uci.edu.

*1. Where do you work?

- Academic library
 - Hospital library
 - Government library
 - Corporate library
 - Other (please specify; examples: library school, publishing, self-employed, unemployed, etc.)
-

*2. Years since receiving your master's degree in library science?

- Less than 3 years
- 3–5 years
- 5–10 years
- More than 10 years
- Not applicable

*3. Education earned? (Check all that apply)

- BA/BS
 - Master's in library/information science
 - Master's degree in another subject area
 - PhD
 - Certificate of advanced study
 - Other (please specify)
-

For purposes of this survey, research is defined as the process of formulating a hypothesis or answerable research question and using scientific techniques to collect and analyze data. Examples of research are surveys, descriptive case studies, longitudinal studies, systematic reviews, content analysis, etc. Please keep this definition in mind when answering the questions below.

*4. How frequently do you read the library literature (non-research)?

- Every day
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Rarely

*5. How frequently do you read research literature?

- Every day
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Rarely

*6. Have you applied the results of research studies to your practice?

- Yes
- No

*7. Please give an example of how you applied the results of research studies to your practice.

*8. Have you designed and conducted your own research study?

- Yes
- No

*9. Briefly describe the topic of your research study.

*10. What was your research approach?

- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Mixed
- Don't know

*11. Did your research result in improving or initiating new library collections, services, and operations?

- Yes
- No

*12. Please give an example of how your research resulted in improving or initiating new library collections, services, and operations.

*13. Have you presented your research findings through papers or posters at a professional meeting?

- Yes
- No

*14. Have you authored or coauthored a research article?

- Yes
- No

*15. How many research articles have you published?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more

*16. In what journals have you published your research? (Check all that apply)

- Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA)*
 - Medical Reference Quarterly*
 - Journal of Hospital Librarianship*
 - Hypothesis* (MLA Research Section journal)
 - Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*
 - Other (please specify)
-

*17. Have you written or participated in writing research grants?

- Yes
- No

*18. How many research grants were funded?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more

*19. Who sponsored the research grant(s)? (Check all that apply)

- MLA (national)
 - MLA section
 - MLA chapter
 - American Library Association
 - Institute of Museum and Library Services
 - National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) funding
 - National Library of Medicine (NLM) funding
 - Other (please specify)
-

*20. Briefly describe the topic of your research grant(s).

*21. Please rate the importance of the following possible benefits of doing research in library practice.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Improves library problem solving and decision making	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provides guidance in evaluating, improving, and initiating new library collections, services, and operations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improves understanding of research process and needs of clinicians and researchers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provides opportunities to build collaborations with colleagues in and outside the library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Demonstrates the value of the library and its impact on users to funding authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improves patient care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contributes to career advancement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creates new knowledge to improve the profession	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promotes critical and scientific thinking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)			

*22. Please indicate how important the following factors have been in limiting your own research. If you do not participate in research, please indicate how important these factors have been in your decision not to participate in research.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Lack of time allotted to research at work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of training in research design and methods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of funding for research training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Lack of time to acquire research skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of statistical support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of tools, databases, and resources to navigate library research literature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of existing research articles on applicable topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of mentorship by experienced researchers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of employer support (training, release time, clerical support, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of financial incentives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of funding for research projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)			

*23. If you could do research with other experienced researchers, would you participate in research studies?

- Yes
- No

*24. If convenient and affordable training in research skills were available, would you take a class if offered?

- Yes
- No

*25. How would you prefer to receive training? (Check all that apply)

- In-person workshops
- Workshops at MLA annual meeting
- Workshops sponsored by local chapter
- Webcasts or teleconferences
- Web-based courses
- Web tutorials
- With a mentor
- Independent reading program
- Discussion group
- Other (please specify):

*26. The [MLA research policy](#) outlines [research skills](#) needed to apply and create research-based evidence to improve library service and health information practice. Please describe your level of skill for each of the following items.

	Highly skilled	Average	Very little skill
Ability to do collaborative research with a team	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to identify and define applicable research questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge and ability to select appropriate quantitative and qualitative methodologies for a given situation or question	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge and ability to use common statistical techniques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to understand and assess validity of statistical research results	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to understand the strengths and limitations of research studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to interpret research findings for significance and usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to accurately summarize research findings for professional communication	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to obtain funding and resources for internal and external research projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)			

*27. As a member of MLA, how valuable are the following Research Section services and benefits to you?

	Very valuable	Somewhat	Not valuable	Unsure
Research programs at MLA annual meeting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
“Research Connection” event at MLA annual meeting (research clinic where you can get help on your research project)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section business meeting at MLA annual meeting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section Awards program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section’s role in the development of MLA’s research agenda	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Very valuable	Somewhat	Not valuable	Unsure
Highlighting of research presentations/posters in program materials at MLA annual meeting (delta symbol)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Hypothesis</i> (Research Section journal publication)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section Facebook page	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section email discussion list	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)				

*28. Are you a member of the Research Section?

- Yes
- No

*29. How long have you been a member?

- 2 years or less
- 3–5 years
- 5 or more years

*30. Have you ever served as a Research Section officer, committee chair, awards judge, or member of a Research Section committee?

- Yes
- No

*31. Which of the following statements best describe why you have not actively participated in Research Section activities? (Check all that apply)

- Too busy
- Too much effort
- Not interesting
- Not aware
- Not asked
- Don't care
- Don't know

Other (please specify)

*32. How satisfied are you with the following Research Section services and programs?

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not satisfied	Unsure
Educational and training programs offered	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section's role in developing MLA's Research Agenda	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research Section's role in providing awards for research excellence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Section publication (<i>Hypothesis</i>)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sharing MLA and section information through the email discussion list, website, and Facebook	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities to network with other colleagues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities to work with other researchers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities to gain leadership experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dissemination and promotion of research information and tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)				

*33. How likely are you to renew your Research Section membership during the next renewal cycle?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Unlikely
- Unsure

34. Do you have any other comments for improving Research Section services and programs?

35. Please include your email address if you would like to enter the drawing for \$200 toward a 2011 MLA meeting registration. Your email will not be connected to your responses and will not be used in any way other than to select and notify the winner of the drawing.

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey.

Congratulations, you're finished!