

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

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Table 1
Subject classification scheme

Broad subject categories per Dimitroff & Gore	Subject areas	Definitions	Examples
Applied	Collection management & development	Studies of information science or librarianship in practical situations. Acquiring, maintaining and building library resources that meet users' needs. Includes print & online.	Transitions to e-resources, e-books, web resources, mobile resources, and specialized collections
	Public services (information/reference/outreach)	Providing assistance to users seeking and using information. Includes information & reference services (onsite & web-based), expert searching; outreach (primary users), liaison, current awareness, and relevant technologies.	Virtual reference, liaison, embedded librarians, clinical medical librarianship (CML), and informationist in context
	Education (end users)	Providing education and training to library users. Includes teaching methods and strategies; relevant technologies.	Information literacy, evidence-based medicine (EBM) training, personal digital assistant (PDA) device training, online tutorials, and nonspecified education
	Information access & retrieval	Managing and creating better systems and methods for information retrieval and access. Includes technical and access services; integrated library systems; and relevant technologies.	Integrated library system (ILS) systems, acquisition systems, electronic records management (ERM) systems, e-portals, federated search/metasearch, circulation & interlibrary loan (ILL) processes, LibGuides, stacks maintenance, and library hours
	Outreach	Providing services and collections to non-primary populations.	Outreach to underserved communities

**Broad subject
categories per
Dimitroff & Gore**

	Subject areas	Definitions	Examples
	Technology	Computer and network processes, methods, or knowledge. Includes computer hardware and software, networking, informatics, and biomedical computing information. Excludes technologies that directly support services, such as reference software; Camtasia software for tutorial design; ILS systems.	Website design, content management systems, electronic health records (EHRs), web 2.0 initiatives (unspecified)
	Information behavior & use	Studies that describe the ways in which people seek and utilize information. Excludes general needs assessments.	Bibliometric studies, citation analysis, and how lit is used in clinical decisions
	Needs assessment	Systematic process that collects and examines data to improve current performance or to correct deficiencies. Include only "unspecified" needs assessments that do not have a stated purpose. Exclude needs assessments that directly support services or functions listed in the other code areas, such as an education needs assessment.	
	Administration & management	Managing people and resources within an organization. Includes administration, financial and human resources; may include evaluation/quality improvement management.	Budgets, staffing, statistics, benchmarking, staffing service desks, and single service point
	Marketing & communication	Promotional strategies that involve efforts to advance the cause of the library or to sell library resources, products, and services. Includes marketing, public relations, and promotion; and communicating value to administration.	
	Library space planning	Library space planning, buildings, and facilities processes.	Library remodel and furniture
Professional concerns	Continuing education (CE) (librarian)	Librarianship as a profession, including status, salaries, and education. Lifelong education and professional development for librarians.	CE, staff development, self-study, online learning, and customer service training

**Broad subject
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	Subject areas	Definitions	Examples
	Professional issues	Exploring issues that affect librarianship as a profession.	New roles, evidence-based librarianship (EBLIP), education, ethics, scholarly communication, and copyright
Related fields		Any research not directly on libraries, library science, or information science.	
	Health research	Nonlibrary, health-related research, including clinical, biomedical, nursing, and public health. Also includes health services research.	Health/medical research
	Institution/environment	Includes health sciences and the health care environment, such as hospitals, clinical care, medical education, medical colleges, and health care organizations. Also includes parent organizations, such as universities.	Employer values (nonlibrary), hospital services or education (nonlibrary)
Theoretical		Studies that examine or attempt to formulate theories or principles that provide a theoretical base for library and information science.	
General		Studies that provide a broad overview of library science, i.e., history of libraries and international librarianship.	
Unusable responses		Respondents provide either an unclear, ambiguous, non-applicable, or blank response.	