

Living to tell the tale

**Librarians and an archivist
come clean about their
original research projects**

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Overview

Description of our research projects and methods

Vote on themes of interest

Discussion of different themes with Q&A

Wrap up

Frans: Usage of college libraries by foreign-born students

Objective: To study cultural beliefs, use service use patterns, and language preferences in an academic library.

Methods: Survey and focus groups

Results: 1) Half the students believe there is an American style of research. 2) The academic library as physical space is important to foreign-born students. 3) The public library acts as a secondary library. 4) Students use their second and third languages for various information tasks.

Conclusion: Evolving our monocultural and monolingual models of services to adjust for transnational populations (many practical ways of doing this).

Lee Ann: Mobile device usage of graduate students

Objective: To explore how graduate students use mobile devices (laptops, smartphones, tablets) to support their academic practices

Methods: Screening survey (n=265); In-depth interviews (n=18)

Results: Devices are repositories of tools; devices aid in collaboration and networking; students are skilled at accessing information

Conclusion: Graduate students have idiosyncratic ways of using multiple devices for academic purposes. The complementary array of devices introduces new possibilities for collaborating, reading, and writing.

Elizabeth: Variations in archival description practices for music materials

Objective: To evaluate compliance with archival description standards and uncover patterns in existing descriptive practice

Methods: Document analysis

Results: Most finding aids not DACS-compliant; most common descriptive practice is to identify dates, formats, and often item-level title information; description most frequently in scope and content note

Conclusion: Focus description in higher-level elements and consider item level description for music materials to improve access

Eamon: Adoption of critical information literacy practices by academic librarians

Objective: To learn how academic librarians are incorporating teaching methods that address issues of social justice and systemic oppression

Methods: Online survey sent to email listservs, followed by 13 interviews

Results: Many teaching methods were shared (such as discussion, reflection, and problem-posing) as well as advantages (teacher authenticity, student engagement) and limitations (expectations, lack of time) of this approach

Conclusion: Critical information literacy instruction takes on many forms, subject to one's aims, positionality, and institutional dynamics

Voting directions

Read each theme

Decide which theme is of most interest to you

Place your sticky note on the corresponding theme

1. Research and your job

Taking stock of the time and support available through your workplace and responsibilities



2. Data collection

Tools, techniques, and how to adjust your project on the fly



3. Data analysis

Making sense and meaning of your data



4. Reporting out

Sharing your findings internally, at conferences, or through publications



Next IRDL application deadline: 1/13/17

More info: www.IRDLOnline.org

Thank you!

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