Getting Your License: Presenting Library Research Projects

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Why Do Research?
- To share knowledge with colleagues
- To build the evidence base of health sciences librarianship
- To obtain evidence to improve library service
- To support excellence in the profession
- To indirectly support improved health care and medical research of the organization
- To advance your career

Why Report Research?
- To clarify results
- To inform colleagues
- To save librarians time by not having to do the same research
- To help librarians manage their libraries more effectively
- To gain recognition from peers and administration
- To earn academic faculty promotion
- To finalize the research and give it value

The Research Process
- Plan
  - Define the research question
  - Perform a literature review
  - State hypothesis
  - Determine data to collect
  - Decide method for analysis
  - Develop timeline and budget
  - Submit to Institutional Review Board
- Do the Research
  - Collect data
  - Analyze data
- Present Results
  - Tell the whole story
  - Poster, published paper, oral paper
  - Non-traditional format—video, poem, website
  - Weave study elements with description, analysis and commentary
    - Describe data collection methods
    - Describe data analysis process
    - Include a visual display of data
    - Data presentation method
      - Sequential
      - Quantitative
      - Theoretical
      - Narrative

Research Stars
Elizabeth Burns, MLS
VA Medical Center, Kansas City
- Demonstrated how using in-house library reports to administrators is a proactive, effective way to advocate for the library and increase funding

Rosalind F. Dudden, MLS
Tucker Medical Library, National Jewish Medical and Research Center
- Surveyed, with a team, ILL activities in CO-WY
- MLA Benchmarking Network, 1996-present
- Journal use surveys
- Authored evaluation research book 2007

Brenda R. Pfannensteil, MALS
Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics
- Developed and teaches a research class for MLA and MCMLA

MCMLA Research Committee Helps You!
The primary goal of the MCMLA Research Committee is to encourage chapter members to engage in research activities by providing mentorship and support.

- Help members can expect from the committee:
  - Advice
  - Encouragement
  - Expertise
  - CE opportunities
  - Sponsored activities
  - Sponsored awards

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