Changing Tack: A Future-Focused ACRL Research Agenda

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INTRODUCTION
The Value of Academic Libraries

- **ACRL Goal-area committee**
  - Part of Plan for Excellence

- **Goal:** Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes
  - Promote impact & value of libraries to higher ed. community
Data Collection

- Three data sources
- Iterative process
  - Advisory group
  - Literature review
  - Provost interviews
SUPPORTING EVIDENCE FOR PRIORITY AREAS & RESEARCH QUESTIONS
“Thinking of how these new learning environments work, and how the library would enhance students' and faculty's ability to access and process knowledge, data information, in those particular kinds of environments. That's what libraries need to do to be successful.”

(Provost Interviewee PP02, Research University, Non-Secular, Private)
“I think each of us would have some example of our shared strategic initiatives around enhancing students' success. And promoting innovation and teaching and learning. What's underlying all of this is that all of us see our work as directly tied to the mission of the university....Academic libraries are those directly connected to the mission of their unique institution.”

(Advisory Group Member LM13, Research University, Non-Secular, Private)
“My biggest concern is that the students aren't coming together...there's a hunger within our undergraduate student population to actually socialize. The library has always been that crossroads for campuses. It could serve in this capacity, pulling students together.”

(Provost Interviewee PP04, Research University, Secular, Public)
“Only sharing space, such as with a writing or computer lab is low level. There needs to be cooperative programming and interaction.”

(Advisory Group Member LM06, Research University, Secular, Public)
“The way many of our faculty and students research now, it’s less about going to a physical space but accessing information in their offices….I think that that is one of the challenges of changing the paradigm.”

(Provost Interviewee PP13, Research University, Non-Secular, Private)
“…we have to be willing to do types of data collection that libraries have shied away from in the past....I think that we have to be able to be willing to have conversations on campus about tracking user behavior in ways that libraries just haven't done.”

(Advisory Group Member LM14, Research University, Secular, Public)
PRIORITY AREAS & RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Priority Areas

1. Communication
2. Collaboration
3. Mission strategy & alignment
4. Teaching & learning
5. Student success
6. Learning analytics
How do academic library resources or services impact success outcomes for students?

- How do library collections impact student retention for undergraduate students?
- How do library spaces support student enrollment?
- How does library instruction affect post-graduate metrics such as job placement?
• How do academic library resources or services impact success outcomes for different students?
  - What difference in information literacy tests do graduate & undergraduate students exhibit?
  - How do military students benefit from library instruction?
Research Questions: Student Success

What outcome data do other departments/units in different institution types collect?

- What student persistence data do tutoring centers in 4-year colleges collect?
- What student success & library instruction data do community college libraries collect?
Research Questions: Student Success

How have librarians ethically collected student outcome & library resource or service data? (Question cross listed with learning analytics)

– How have librarians collected student GPA & library usage data?
Interactive Visualization Dashboard

- Overview
- What it does
- How it works
  - Engineering feats and tips
  - Design decision and challenges
- Usability testing via OCLC Usability Lab
- Upcoming features
About The Dashboard

- Find literature relevant to your research interests
- Create charts and graphs
LITERATURE SEARCH TOOL
Value of Academic Libraries
Your Selections (Matches 4 of 369 Total Documents):

- Year Published (2010)
- Institution Type (University)
- Contains 'literacy'

Save/Share My Selections
"I never had to use the library in high school": A library instruction program for at-risk students

Abstract
Most academic library instruction is limited to one class period, despite empirical evidence that this approach is likely less effective than more sustained instruction. To determine if additional sessions would boost student learning and reduce library anxiety, the authors collaborated with representatives from a program for at-risk undergraduates to develop a three-workshop model for basic instruction and orientation. They first delivered the program during the summer of 2012 and subsequently offered it to three additional groups of students, including a cohort of doctoral students in the sciences. This article describes the process of designing the workshops and evaluating their effectiveness, with special attention to demonstrating how the program supported the parent institution’s goals and mission.

Authors
Fleming-May, R. A., Mays, R., & Radom, R.

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Value of Academic Libraries

Booleans are supported: AND, OR, and NOT (case-insensitive).

Phrases containing spaces must be quoted (e.g., "library metrics")

Parentheses ( ) can be used to control operator precedence.

Example Query:
("library metrics" or success) and community and 2013
CHARTS AND GRAPHS TOOL
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Value of Academic Libraries
Value of Academic Libraries
Chart Type

Bar

Area

Bar

Circle

Line

Point

Square

Tick
Value of Academic Libraries

Chart Fields

**Chart Type**
- Bar

**Layout**
- x: Year Published
- y: COUNT

**Rows**
- drag and drop a data field here

**Columns**
- drag and drop a data field here

**Appearance**
- size: drag and drop a data field here
- color: drag and drop a data field here
- shape: drag and drop a data field here
Save My Work

Export as PNG
HOW IT WORKS
Instant. Comprehensive. Exact.
Vega-Lite is a high-level visualization grammar. It provides a concise JSON syntax for supporting rapid generation of visualizations to support analysis. Vega-Lite specifications can be compiled to Vega specifications.

Vega-Lite specifications describe visualizations as mappings from data to properties of graphical marks (e.g., points or bars). It automatically produces visualization components including axes, legends, and scales. It then determines properties of these components based on a set of carefully designed rules. This approach allows Vega-Lite specifications to be succinct and expressive, but also provide user control. As Vega-Lite is designed for analysis, it supports data transformations such as aggregation, binning, filtering, sorting, and visual transformations including stacking and faceting.
Value of Academic Libraries

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Aggregation...
Usability Study

• Still In Progress

• Findings
  – Positive feedback on general appearance/polish
  – Literature search works well
  – “Chart anxiety” in people who do not make many charts
  – A short YouTube video on the Charts and Graphs could help
Remaining Features

• Log in with ACRL Account
  – Save charts/data
  – Edit/upload additional articles

• Formulas

• Visualize other data

• Additional aggregate functions

• Expose a few more Vega-Lite features
Available for Use & Comment

Public Release May 23, 2017
Accessible from:
http://www.oclc.org/research/themes/user-studies/acrl-agenda.html
References


References


Thank you!

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Because what is known must be shared.