Research and Publication as an Early Career Librarian

Stuit, Martha; Thielen, Joanna

http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/146533
Early Career Librarians + Research & Publication

Martha Stuit
University of Michigan Library
Considerations for research & publication

• Job responsibilities (tenure track or not)
• Experience (previous research & publication)
• Preparation (course on research methods)
• Confidence
• Time
Why research & publish?

• Develop **new knowledge**
• Position the library as a contributor to **research on campus**
• Give librarians **experience** with research & publication, which is applicable to their work with faculty
• Advance in **jobs** & profession
Our survey

✓ 255 valid responses
✓ Respondents worked in libraries for 5 years or less
✓ All have MLIS or equivalent

This talk’s focus:
Influencing factors for engaging with research & publication
Top *positively* influencing factors

1. Convenience of accessing scholarly resources \((n = 206, 86\%)\)
2. Access to necessary technology \((n = 203, 84\%)\)
3. Collaborator support and/or presence \((n = 189, 78\%)\)

*positive + strongly positive combined*
Top *negatively* influencing factors

1. Absence of supervisor support 
   \((n = 117, 48\%)\)
2. Absence of mentor support 
   \((n = 116, 48\%)\)
3. Culture at my academic library 
   \((n = 47, 19\%)\)

*positive + strongly positive combined*
Additional factors = personal

• Self-motivation (presence or absence)
• View of librarianship (positive or negative)
• Lack of confidence
• Personal life
• Access to conferences
• Job applications
  (+ time)
  (+ culture)
Top factors for publishing more in the future

1. Dedicated time to conduct research ($n = 199$)
2. Supervisor support ($n = 128$)
3. Collaborator support ($n = 128$)
So what?
Thank you

Martha Stuit
Deep Blue, Michigan Publishing
University of Michigan Library
stuitm@umich.edu

Joanna Thielen
Research Data Librarian
Oakland University Libraries
jthielen@oakland.edu
Image credits

“ask” by vectoriconset10 from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“bullying” by Matt Wasser from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“Checklist” by Jean-Philippe Cabaroc from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“cycle” by Yanick Brezet from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“island” by ProSymbols from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“laptop” by Alex Auda Samora from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“support” by Oksana Latysheva from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“Sunshine” by Creative Stall from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“thought” by Stephen Borengassser from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“Tree” by Richard from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“Unlock” by Björn Andersson from the Noun Project. CC BY.
“Watch” by Smalllike from the Noun Project. CC BY.