Research and Publication as an Early Career Librarian

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Early Career Librarians + Research & Publication

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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

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