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Librarians: The Key to Powerful Systematic Reviews

Brandy King, MLIS
Brian Schwartz, MLIS PhD
Susan Stagno, MD

Co-Sponsored by DBIO
Agenda

• Brandy King, MLIS – Systematic review grants from the Gold Foundation

• Susan Stagno, MD – Experience of researchers

• Brian Schwartz, MLS, PhD – Experience of librarians

• Q&A/Discussion
Gold Foundation Research Institute

• Accelerate discovery in humanism in healthcare
• Disseminate findings
• Use those findings to make change
Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together

How can that knowledge be used to make change? Advocacy Grants $15,000

What do we know? Literature Review Grants $5,000

How can we fill gaps in that knowledge? Discovery Grants $15,000

Community of Practice

Education Culture Change in Health Care Policy
Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together

Over five years:
• 70 systematic review grants ($5K each)
• 17 Advocacy and Discovery grants ($15K each)
• Over 400 team members

Resulted in 39 publications
Librarian requirement

• At least one team member must be a current faculty member at an accredited allopathic or osteopathic medical school

• **At least one team member must be a health science librarian or have equivalent search expertise**

• At least one team member should have successfully completed one or more rigorous reviews of the literature
Survey

- Researchers and Systematic Reviews
  - Created: 04/23/2019 | Modified: 06/11/2019
  - 52 Responses

- Librarians and Systematic Reviews
  - Created: 05/24/2019 | Modified: 06/02/2019
  - 19 Responses
Interventions to Prevent and Reduce Burnout Among Undergraduate and Graduate Medical Education Trainees: a Systematic Review

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Abstract
Objective The authors conducted a systematic review of the published literature to identify interventions to prevent and/or reduce burnout among medical students and residents.
Was your Mapping the Landscape project the first time you had worked closely with a librarian?

From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Search specifications

- Includes both published and unpublished literature
- Peer-reviewed studies utilizing quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods
- Databases: PubMED, Scopus, Web of Science, Embase, PsycINFO, Google Scholar, ERIC, Education Source, CINAHL, the Cochrane Library, and Academic Search Complete.

(professional burnout OR chronic mental exhaustion OR resiliency OR mental strength)
AND
(medical education OR medical residency OR medical student)
AND
(primary prevention OR primordial prevention)

- English language
- Dates of inclusion will be ten years to present
- The exclusion criteria of this search will be: stress reduction OR stress management, and all synonyms regarding the general state of stress and coping
Have you worked with a librarian in another capacity since your Mapping the Landscape project?

- **All respondents**
  - Yes: 62%
  - No: 38%

- **Those who had not previously worked with a librarian**
  - Yes: 52%
  - No: 48%

From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
If another colleague was planning a systematic review, would you encourage them to partner with a librarian?

98% Yes

From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
What would you tell a colleague were the benefits of working with a librarian?

• “The search strategy is really our core methodology. The integrity of what we can learn, what we can say, and the kind of contribution we can make is dependent on the search strategy.”

• “Working on a review with a librarian makes the process so much more efficient, you feel assured the methods are appropriate, and the results always thorough.”

• “Not engaging with a medical librarian in a systematic review is a major methodological flaw in my view.”

From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.
Do you have any other comments about working with a librarian on your project?

• “Librarians: Don’t leave home without one!”

• “This was a **fantastic interdisciplinary collaboration** that I wouldn't **have thought of** if it wasn't for the specific MTL project requirement.”

• “We've had the luck of having a librarian-colleague who's been involved in reviews by our team for over a decade. This means she's not only the expert in the search strategy (and determining focus), but she also knows the ins and outs of our field. She is **irreplaceable**.”

From a survey of 52 researchers associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.
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Literature Review

Teaching the humanity of evidence-based medicine:
Informed by the literature,
guided by the physician, framed by the patient
“I have referred to Librarians as the "Swiss Army Knife" of academia - and I mean that. They are the most versatile and adaptable - the skills they bring to the team far surpass the ‘searching and retrieving’.

-A Mapping the Landscape researcher
Please characterize the contributions made by your MTL team's librarian in the following areas:

- Creating a search strategy
- Managing citations in bibliographic or systematic review software
- Writing the methodology section of the manuscript
- Structuring the research question
- Evaluating individual search results
- Writing or editing other parts of the manuscript
- Analyzing the evidence overall
- Promoting and disseminating the publication
- Preparing the manuscript for publication (formatting, references)
Was your Mapping the Landscape project the first systematic review you took part in?

From a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
How many systematic review teams have you been a part of?

- 26% 10+ reviews
- 32% 4-9 reviews
- 42% 1-3 reviews

From a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Does your library offer and promote systematic review partnership as service?

According to a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, 37% say yes, 16% say no, and 47% indicate that they are engaged in systematic reviews but do not promote it as a service.
Has offering systematic review partnership resulted in any of the following benefits?

- New library users
- Attention or praise from institutional leadership
- Increased "business" from researchers after their systematic review was complete
- Improved search skills for yourself or other staff
- Authorship
- Other

From a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
What is challenging about offering systematic review partnership as a service?

• Capacity
• Unrealistic expectations
• “Mind-numbing work”

From a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
How much time are we talking?

One participant said that in 2018 they had:

7 librarians providing systematic review services who started 138 new systematic reviews working for a total of 2173.5 hours on new *and* ongoing systematic reviews

From a survey of 19 librarians associated with the Mapping the Landscape, Journeying Together program of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Librarians’ Reported Systematic Review Completion Time Ranges Between 2 and 219 Total Hours with Most Variance due to Information Processing and Instruction

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