What do Liaison Librarians do?

Liaison librarians are professional librarians with a minimum of a Master’s of Library Science (or its equivalent) who act as a link between the library and its customers. They can work with faculty, staff and students by appointment, email or phone to:

- Assist with search strategy development and refinement for writing assignments, literature reviews, QI or EBP projects, or finding answers to clinical questions.
- Recommend resources to meet particular information needs.
- Refer you to other helpful library services to support research, education, and patient care.
- Provide instruction sessions to groups, classes, or departments to improve searching and retrieval of high quality resources, managing citations, accessing information, and evaluating information to support an EBP approach.
- Refine assignments to better integrate information literacy competencies that support EBP and lifelong learning.

Research Consultations

Research consultations with a Librarian can take many forms. Topics range from how to develop a search strategy for a specific project, including keyword development, recommended resources, and helpful database features, to the nuts and bolts of how to effectively use specific tools, such as citation managers or library apps, to a broad overview of searching theory, library resources, and services.

In addition to setting up a consultation for yourself, these can be a great resource you can recommend to your students this upcoming semester as they begin their research projects and assignments.

Liaison Librarian News

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Now Available: InCites from Clarivate Analytics

Most of us are familiar with the decades-old impact factor available from Journal Citation Reports (JCR) and derived from Web of Science (WoS) data. Faculty often report this data with their publications as a proxy for quality. However, many institutions are attempting to move beyond the impact factor and measure research impact more holistically.

Formed as a spin-off from Thomson Reuters in late 2016, Clarivate Analytics is the new brand behind WoS and JCR, as well as their analytical tool, InCites. The OSU Industry Liaison Office has funded current access to InCites for OSU faculty, staff, and students. While this tool has a bit of a learning curve, it is a powerful way to analyze large sets of bibliometric data and may provide visualizations for grant applications, promotion and tenure cases, and other reports of collaboration and productivity.

To access InCites, you MUST register. If you are already registered with Web of Science or the free EndNote provided within Web of Science, that same registration will work. If not, a new registration is required. Use the Web of Science link on the HSL home page, then select the InCites link at the top of the page.

Collaboration Visualization for Publications in Clinical Neurology with OSU Authors in 2015

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Subject Guides: Under Renovation

HSL Subject Guides support library users at all times and from any location by collecting valuable library information into an online portal for independent learning. Targeted at subject areas, specific courses, or general research skills, each guide contains links to a wide variety of both library and outside resources that can help users accomplish their research goals.

The Health Sciences Library is currently redesigning the online subject guides, so be on the look out for changes and improvements. If you know of a specific resource that would be good to highlight on the guide for your college or department, please let your Liaison Librarian know so that it can be reviewed and potentially added to the guide.

If you are teaching a course and would like to have a guide developed to support your assignments and instruction, contact your Liaison Librarian to set up a time to discuss the possibilities. Course guides can be embedded in your Carmen course and act as a good supplement to in-class instruction by a Librarian, helping guide students to appropriate resources to successfully complete their assignments.

To view the guides, click the link at the bottom of the HSL webpage or visit: hslguides.osu.edu

Covidence: A Systematic Review Tool

Covidence is a tool used with systematic reviews to facilitate screening, more quickly and efficiently. Cochrane uses this tool for their systematic reviews. Citations may be added through a number of formats, including XML, EndNote, Refworks, etc. Members of the systematic review team can then vote anonymously as they decide to include or exclude a study, and there is a “maybe” category as well. Various levels of screening are available such as: title/abstract, full text, data extraction, and risk of bias. The tool will also create a PRISMA flow chart.

The Health Sciences Library has started a pilot with a small number of reviews, on a first come first served basis. If you are thinking about conducting a systematic review in the future, you may want to consider using this tool. Please contact your Liaison Librarian if you would like further information.
Once logged into InCites, you are able to explore data by names, organizations, regions, research areas, publications (primarily journals), or funding agencies. There are four built-in reports available to run: researcher, local journal utilization, research performance, and collaborations. These reports make creating meaningful visualizations much easier.

Here is one quick example of a research performance report, showing 5-year trends of publications with at least one OSU author in journals categorized in the Cell and Tissue Engineering category. You can clearly see how this area grew rapidly since 2009.

Please note: There are inherent limitations to reports generated in InCites since the contents of WoS are not inclusive of all journal literature, especially for some fields. However, biomedicine in general, both clinical and bench research, is covered relatively well.

Training videos are available on YouTube and are strongly recommended before proceeding. See http://go.osu.edu/incites_tutorials for the playlist.