How Are We Developing Future Electronic Resource Librarians?

Cara Calabrese | Miami University
RPLTS Virtual IG Week
Overview

01 Research on ER topics in MLIS curriculum

02 Skilling up

03 Taking the mystery out of the process
Research Aims

- Determine what classes, skills, and tracks related to Electronic Resources Management and Librarianship are currently being offered by ALA accredited library schools.
- Then through further research work, determine if current education is enough to be successful after graduation in the ER field.
Programs with highest graduate numbers

- San Jose State University
- Simmons University
- University of North Texas
- Texas Woman's University
- Rutgers
Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and the smallest one in the Solar System—it's only a bit larger than the Moon.

- 222 courses available in top 5 programs
- 32 required courses
- 12 of those contained skills related to Electronic Resources Librarianship (ERL)
- That ratio (36%) is similar to total number of courses that contain skills related to ERL (83/222)
Initial Findings

Text Analysis using TERMS & NASIG Core Competencies of ER Librarians
- half never mentioned at all
- 19% had 2 or fewer mentions
- 1 mention of Electronic Resources (but only in relation to youth collections)

Below not mentioned in any course descriptions

Licensing, Life Cycle, OA, Copyright, Discovery Services, Proxy, SERU, OpenURL, & Troubleshooting
## Initial Conclusions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MLIS Programs</th>
<th>Completions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Jose State</td>
<td>733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simmons University</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>270</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Woman's University</td>
<td>211</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutgers</td>
<td>196</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,691</strong></td>
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Yielded only 12 required courses that touch on ER skills

Only 37% of all courses give the opportunity to learn about ERM
02 Skill Building

Building skills post MLIS & training others
Developing your skills

**Professional Development**
UKSG Licensing Seminar, MLIS schools offering post degree or professional courses, Core Webcourses & CE

**Shadowing & Mentorship**
Approaching ER librarians, ALA, Core, & Local/regional Mentorship

**Documenting & Creating**
When in a role, I found updating procedures to help me understand what and why we were doing things. Also allows others after you to understand better as well!

**Hands on Exp**
The well known one: Actually getting to do the work
Replacing Mystery with expertise!
**Working with others**

**Share**
Incorporate others early when developing processes

**Communicate**
Provide feedback stops, let others know why or why not adjustments are made, & hit up all your constituencies

**Iterate**
Allow flexibility to adjust as new suggestions or opportunities come up
THANKS

Do you have any questions?
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