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Purpose

This report highlights the breadth and diversity of librarians’ research across the University of Saskatchewan campus. Librarians’ research comprises 15% of their duties as faculty members. In these roles, librarians are engaged in research that connects to academic disciplines in the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and fine arts, while contributing directly to the field of library and information science and to the specific interests of the University of Saskatchewan library. This report provides an overview of librarians’ research funding, knowledge exchange, and other research activities in the 2016-2017 fiscal and academic years. It highlights the growing scope and success in librarians’ research and dissemination.

Research Funding

Since 2011, librarians have applied for a total of 43 internal grants, and 31 external ones, with an overall success rate of nearly 79%. These funding successes demonstrate librarians’ engagement with research both within and beyond this institution.

The successful grants represent support for research across all stages of the process, from project development, to the research itself, to dissemination of the results.

Grant Applications

Submitted and awarded grant proposals over the past 6 years

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<td>70%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>79%</td>
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Librarians have pursued a range of internal and external funding. Internally, applications and success rates have both been particularly high through the President’s SSHRC programs: funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) that is administered by the University of Saskatchewan to support small-scale or developmental research projects. Externally, successes have come both from discipline-specific grants, and through multidisciplinary granting agencies, notably SSHRC.

Grant Funding

Each phase of research funding sets the stage for subsequent grant successes, as shifts in funding types suggest across the past five years of successful grant applications by librarians. In particular, a growth in successful dissemination grant applications typically follows a year of notable research grant success.

Commented [MK1]: More contrast among chart colours

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1 It is important to note that the research phases are not equally well served by available grants (most are designated for research), meaning that the dollar amounts for each category are not directly comparable to each other. The research phases are placed side-by-side here to show the relationships and progressions from one phase to the next.
**Dissemination**

Librarians have contributed to a body of research dissemination that has grown consistently over the past six years. Areas that have seen the most steady growth include conference presentations and other forms of dissemination that contribute to disciplinary practice and public knowledge, such as artistic performances, curated exhibits, and reports (all represented in the category of Other Scholarly Work\(^2\) in the figures below).

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\(^2\) This category includes scholarly outputs like curated exhibits, artistic performances/exhibitions, book reviews, papers published in proceedings, expository/review articles, and reports.
The category of invited presentations refers to talks given at conferences or other professional meetings where the speaker has been specifically solicited to present. This is in contrast to the more numerous contributed conference presentations, where speakers typically follow an application process to be accepted to the conference.
Jill Crawley-Low  
BSc, MLS (University of Alberta): Jill's research interests are in the areas of leadership and organizational theory in academic libraries, and the history of veterinary medicine told through print materials published prior to the 20th century.

Diane (DeDe) Dawson  
BSc, MSc, MLIS (Western University): Driven by her education and research background in the sciences, DeDe has a strong interest in the ways scientists communicate the results of their research and how libraries can support this. Her research focuses on scholarly communication and open access issues, and related topics involving science library collections.

Carolyn Doi  
AVCM, BMus, MLIS (McGill University): Carolyn's research relates to music and place, online learning, and music collections.

Vicky Duncan  
BA, MLIS (University of Toronto): Vicky is primarily a qualitative researcher. She enjoys using qualitative methods to explore how students search for information, and negotiate their way through the research process.

Angie Gerrard  
BA, MLIS (University of Alberta): Angie's professional practice and research interest is in the area of information literacy where she is currently investigating social science faculty's perceptions and practices of information literacy. Angie is also active on two faculty research teams investigating workplace safety and harassment.

Crystal Hampson  
BA (Hon. Cert.), MLIS (Western University): Crystal's research interests relate to current and emerging issues in library acquisitions. Her research focuses on academic libraries' funding of open access publishing.

Tim Hutchinson  
BArts Sc, BSc Hon, MSc, MS in Information (Michigan): Tim's research interests focus on technological approaches to archives, especially in the areas of digital preservation and descriptive standards.

Maha Kumaran  
MA, MLIS (University of British Columbia): Maha's research focuses on inclusive diversity and librarianship. She has also published in the areas of distance and distributed learning and scholarship in librarianship.

Ken Ladd  
BSc, MSc, MLIS (University of Toronto): Ken is interested in the differences between print journals and their electronic journal archive (poor quality e-surrogates, missing content, damaged print) and how this impacts on print archiving; and print archiving in general, in particular collaborative approaches.

Deborah Lee  
BA, MLIS (University of Alberta): Deborah's research interests focus on Indigenous Librarianship (i.e., the provision of culturally relevant library services, including Indigenizing information literacy instruction, decolonizing subject headings describing Indigenous materials, and advocating for the recruitment and retention of Indigenous librarians in library workplaces), Indigenous research methodologies, and the analysis of biographical characteristics of Indigenous authors and visual artists.

Shannon Lucky  
BA, BFA, MA, MLIS (University of Alberta): Shannon is interested in how usable technology can support the information practices of people and communities. She researches digital strategies for community archives and user-centered design for discovery and learning tools.

Jaclyn McLean  
BA hon, MLIS (Western University): Jaclyn's research interests stem from curiosity about the impacts of change on libraries as organizations and librarianship as a profession, especially when technology or external stimuli are involved.

Jo Ann Murphy  
BA, MLIS (University of Alberta): Jo Ann's research interests are focused on academic library services that support student learning, in particular models of integrated support services. She is also interested in students' collaborative, social, and informal learning in the library.

Susan Murphy  
BA, MA, MLIS (University of British Columbia): Susan's research interests are in the areas of emerging issues in academic health librarianship, the implications of new technologies for health sciences librarian professional practice, the delivery of library services and information literacy instruction to distance and distributed students, and building partnerships on and off campus.

David A. Smith  
BA, MA, MAS (University of British Columbia), PhD (University of Saskatchewan): David's research interests include myths of the American West, US presidential politics, tourism history, and digital projects involving the history of Indigenous peoples.

Virginia Wilson  
BA, MA, MLIS (University of Alberta): Virginia's active research interests are librarians as researchers and evidence based library and information practice. She is also interested in the changing face of scholarly communication.
Featured Research

“Sounds of Home: Exploring Local Music Collections and Collecting in Canada”

Carolyn Doi of the University of Saskatchewan and co-investigator Sean Luyk of the University of Alberta are undertaking a Canada-wide study of local music collecting practices: the first study of its kind in Canada. They seek to identify where these collections currently exist, and how they are managed, used, and understood. Drawing together interdisciplinary expertise in Library and Information Science and Musicology, the study uses questionnaires and interviews with local music collectors in cultural heritage institutions to illuminate not only local expressions of music, but also the ways that this music has been collected and curated to reinforce local musical values and interests. A significant outcome of the project will be an online geovisualization tool that connects collections from across Canada, to assist public users, practitioners, and researchers in locating information about music from their communities.

The project responds to current practices and climates in local music collecting at a time when technologies and practices can shift rapidly. One of the goals of the project is to examine these practices through a broad lens via surveys, but it also delves into specific collections’ experiences and knowledge through interviews. From these complementary approaches, it will now be possible to develop a comprehensive overview of local music collections in Canada, and will allow them to share knowledge far more smoothly than has previously been possible. Beyond that, though, the research and the online mapping tool will also improve public access to these collections, and will help to establish best practices for collecting, documenting, and preserving local music.

![The geovisualization tool in use, identifying some local music collections across the globe (image courtesy of Carolyn Doi)](image-url)
Featured Research

Outreach and Community Engagement

The University of Saskatchewan’s Office of Engagement and Outreach notes that “There is no one way of doing academic community engagement.” The core practice of community engagement involves community partners at all phases of the research process, is designed to be of mutual benefit to all parties involved, and prioritizes community knowledge, needs, and feedback on the project. Outreach also seeks to meet the goal of making knowledge accessible and beneficial to a broader public, but may employ a different set of methods than engagement does, focusing on one-time events or projects that seek to bring university knowledge, tools, or programs to a public audience.

It is noteworthy that nearly every University of Saskatchewan librarian has participated in outreach and engagement activity at some point in their career. In 2016-17, 12 librarians undertook 24 different outreach and engagement projects, as identified in relevant sections of faculty members’ CVs. Public audiences and partners for these activities included high school students, community arts and heritage organizations, other community-based professionals, and religious groups.

Examples of outreach and engagement initiatives by library faculty include grant-funded undertakings, as well as activities that are completed within the context of professional practice but that draw specifically on librarians’ scholarly research to connect effectively with communities. Two of the 12 librarians who undertook outreach and engagement work in 2016-17 are Shannon Lucky and David Bindle. Shannon’s PSSHRC-funded project “Analysis of Open Source Technology Systems for Community Archiving Projects,” a partnership with Saskatoon community arts organization PAVED Arts that seeks to identify best practices for accessible digitized collections in community arts organizations. Meanwhile, David’s research interests in access to and promotion of archival collections informed a series of workshops that he delivered to high school history students on archival research and collections.

Outreach and engagement activities represent significant outputs of time, energy, and expertise, often in ways that are not easily quantifiable, e.g. in building trust and relationships, in assessing the accessibility of research and services, or in adapting a project in response to new community knowledge and feedback. Acknowledging the diversity of these activities depicts the breadth of impact of librarians’ research and practice.

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3The University of Saskatchewan standard CV includes one category, Public and Community Contributions (s.28), that is specifically dedicated to outreach and engagement activities. Within librarians’ research-supported professional practice, outreach and engagement also play significant roles, and these activities are detailed in s.23 (Professional Practice). Outside of these two defined categories, outreach and engagement have taken many other forms, such as information sessions for high school students or community professionals, activism and advocacy, public exhibits and lectures, articles written for general audiences, and research projects with a general community engagement focus. Because such activities do not always fit consistently into specific CV sections, they can be difficult to quantify systematically. Figure 12 is intended to paint a broad picture of outreach and engagement in the library, rather than being a detailed point of comparison for future years.
Faculty Knowledge Exchange, 2016-17 Academic Year

BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS


PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES


INVITED PRESENTATIONS


CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS


Dawson, D. “Outreach by Stealth’ and Other Strategies of Effective Open Access Outreach Services to Researchers.” presented at the Centre for Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice Fall Symposium, Saskatoon, SK, October 2016.


Gerrard, A. “Changing Your Research Plan En-Route.” presented at the C-EBLIP Fall Symposium, Saskatoon, SK, October 2016.


Risling, T, N Rohatinsky, M Kumaran, L Hellesten, and N Thorp. “Collaborating with Canadian IBD Nurses to Develop a Pilot


Frederick, D. “American Library Association 2016 Midwinter Meeting: Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) Participants Meeting.” Cataloging & Classification Quarterly 54, no. 4.


Wilson, V. “Mythbusting EBLIP.” Evidence Based Library and Information Practice 12, no. 2 (2017): 184–86.

