



The Future of LIS Education

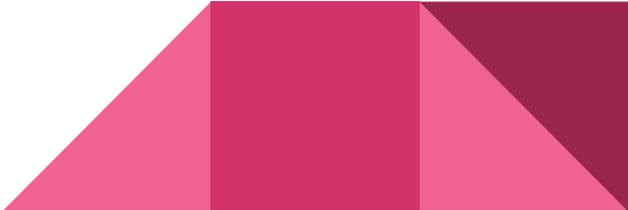
Dustin Fife and Mary Naylor

We Asked Librarians What They Want

Methodology:

1. Simple Qualtrics survey distributed through listservs and social media groups.
2. Five short questions—three multiple choice and two open-ended.
3. Were hoping for 150 participants, got 375 in a 24 hour period.
4. Participants from all over the United States.

Limitations:

1. Utah slightly overrepresented (knew from IP addresses).
 2. Sought no demographic information about race, sex, gender, etc...
- 

5 Simple Questions:

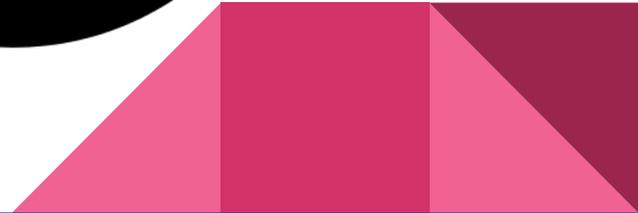
1. How many years has it been since you completed your library degree?
 2. What is your library degree? (MLS, MLIS, MSLS...)
 3. What types of courses would you have liked more of in your library degree?
 4. What other types of courses would have helped you most in your library career?
 5. Having worked in a library, what types of skills or knowledge would you focus on if you were to work on a library degree now?
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Questions Three, Four, and Five

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Question 1

How many years has it been since you completed your library degree?

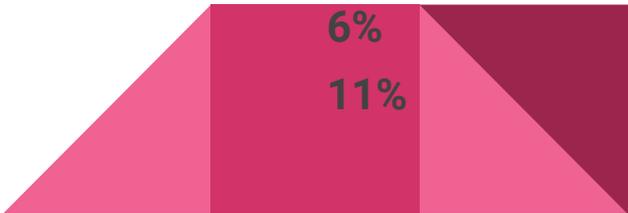
| | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. In Progress | 26 | 7% |
| 2. 0-5 Years | 102 | 27% |
| 3. 6-10 Years | 75 | 20% |
| 4. 11-15 Years | 34 | 9% |
| 5. 16-20 Years | 25 | 7% |
| 6. 21 + Years | 66 | 18% |
| 7. No library degree | 45 | 12% |



Question 2

Which of these is your library degree?

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|------------|
| 1. BS | 3 | 1% |
| 2. MLS | 127 | 34% |
| 3. MLIS | 148 | 40% |
| 4. MSLS | 18 | 5% |
| 5. MIS | 3 | 1% |
| 6. MS | 9 | 2% |
| 7. Other | 24 | 6% |
| No Library Degree | 40 | 11% |



Question 3

What types of courses would you have liked more of in your library degree? (Multiple Choice)

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Management and Leadership | 151 | 45% |
| 2. Marketing, Budgets, and Finance | 147 | 44% |
| 3. Social Work and Public Health | 59 | 18% |
| 4. Advocacy and Law | 64 | 19% |
| 5. Community Organization | 96 | 29% |
| 6. Computer Science and Technology | 138 | 41% |
| 7. User Experience and Graphic Design | 144 | 43% |



Question 4

What other types of course(s) would have helped you most in your library career?
(Open Ended)

4. What other types of course(s) would have helped you most in your library career?

| Text Response |
|--|
| Public administration, more tech |
| facilities maintance |
| All of the above |
| Instruction, programming, marketing |
| Instruction |
| More children's programming/materials |
| More cataloging |
| negotiation through difficult political environments |
| Teaching |
| Instruction |
| Instructional design, psychology, and conflict resolution. |
| n/a |
| Additional archival preservation and conservation courses. |
| Human resource management |
| Political Organizing |

Question 5

Having worked in a library, what types of skills or knowledge would you focus on if you were to work on a library degree now?

5. Having worked in a library, what types of skills or knowledge would you focus on if you were to work on a library degree now?

| Text Response |
|---|
| technology |
| technology and systems |
| Supervising and management |
| Tribal Law/Communities |
| advocacy |
| building highly effective teams, project management, change management |
| Management, budgets, finance, etc |
| Outreach, pedagogy, student retention efforts, scholarly publication |
| coding/programming |
| Technology |
| Computer and programming skills |
| Research methods (shied away because it sounded difficult, turned out to be pretty essential), instructional design, programming, customer service, marketing, working with difficult patrons |
| Change management |
| Instruction |
| Currently working on ut |
| Management, organizational communication, user experience |
| Technology, computers, management |
| The change from ownership to access, the move from collection focused librarianship, current technology |
| can't get a job |
| Archives/metadata |
| teaching and leadership |
| Instruction |
| I would require a practicum. Hands on experience is a must |

Grouping Questions Three, Four, and Five

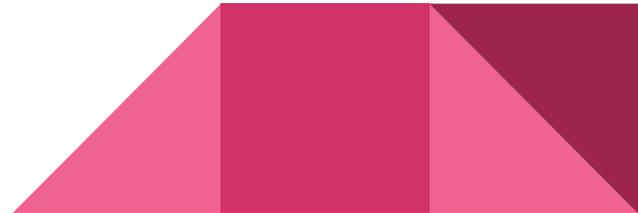
| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| 1. | Management and Leadership | 300 |
| 2. | Marketing, Budgets, and Finance | 224 |
| 3. | Social Work and Public Health | 79 |
| 4. | Advocacy and Law | 113 |
| 5. | Community Organization | 155 |
| 6. | Computer Science and Technology | 277 |
| 7. | User Experience and Graphic Design | 218 |
| 8. | *Pedagogy, Instructional Design, and Human Development | *94 |
| 9. | Library Specialties | 129 |
| 10. | Data and Statistics | 41 |
| 11. | Internship or practicum | 14 |
| 12. | Customer Service and Communication | 56 |



Thoughts for Library Programs

1. Swiss Army Degrees--Take advantage of traditional campus setting.

“Borrowing from many departments will prepare adaptive and innovative librarians that not only manage change, but thrive in change. Just as the future of the library is partnerships and collaborations within its many communities, the future of the LIS degree should be founded on new and stronger partnerships and collaborations within the curriculum.”



Thoughts for Professional Development

Assess: staff goals, gaps, and interests

Invite community members to present their expertise

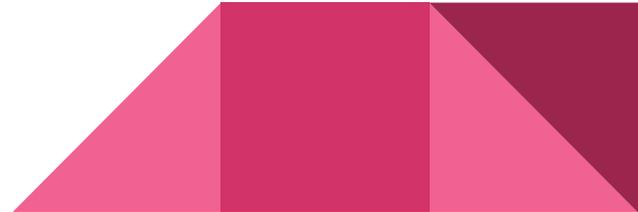
Human resources or Small business administration volunteers

Finance, budgeting, and grant experts

Social workers

Instructional Designers

Web Designers/Tech Gurus/Coding boot camp



Contact Information



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