

Thinking outside the “stacks”: finding new opportunities to evolve medical librarianship

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Engage with research cultures

recognize our unique skills, resources and interests that few other professionals have

assist users in the different stages of the research life cycle: data analysis, data reporting, etc.

see yourself as a stakeholder rather than a bystander

look for underserved research groups and fields

live in the environment of your patrons: labs, scientific meetings, medical rounds, etc.

develop a research base and culture within LIS: formulate research questions, publish our experiences

read the literature and attend the conference meetings of your patrons

take the time to learn the field of your patrons

Understand users holistically

clearly understand your skills and how they can meet your users' needs; focus on your strengths

immerse yourself rather than learn about users second hand

recognize cultural norms and language barriers; seek solutions and understanding

look at the global dynamics and backgrounds of your users

Integrate with the non-traditional

library skills and practices are desired in different disciplines; do not be afraid of your limits

work in different environments: not-for-profit, corporate, international organizations

remain viable in a competitive environment with new emerging fields

seek different roles; do not restrict yourself to the library

integrate librarian skills into a scientific or medical research project: data analysis, organization, pattern seeking

seek new ideas and options

do not restrict yourself to literature-oriented tasks

look for ideas in different fields: PR, business