Piloting an Interdisciplinary Systematic Review Service

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Background

- University of North Carolina Charlotte serves approximately 30,000 students
- College of Health & Human Services (CHHS)
  - 4 major departments
  - ~2800 undergraduate and 1000 graduate students
- Cato College of Education (COED)
  - 2,000 enrolled students
  - 115 full-time faculty
Why a pilot program?

• Associate Dean for Research from College of Health & Human Services approached the CHHS librarian about supporting systematic reviews
• Associate Dean for Public Services and CHHS Librarian had systematic review experience
• Funding from CHHS to support systematic review research in some capacity
Initial pilot launch

- Two librarians would support up to 6 research teams during the fall semester

- Librarians would:
  - Work with research team to refine topic and talk about potential databases to use for the review
  - Develop and complete searches
  - Keep track of searches through documentation
  - Provide information and some support for Covidence
  - Write search methodology and provide appendixes of all search strategies

- CHHS would provide funding for Covidence for up to one year

- Workshop would be offered to CHHS faculty to discuss systematic review research methodology
Systematic review workshop

- Offered in fall 2022
- Discussed standards and methodology of systematic review
- Conversation about the importance of librarian involvement in systematic reviews
- Faculty still interested could submit a proposal to be part of the pilot
  - Research topic
  - Research team
  - Expected timeline
- Librarians and Associate Dean for Research selected research teams
College of Education involvement

• Contacted by COED Associate Dean for Research about possible participation in the pilot program of their faculty
• Determined that we could support up to 3 COED research teams
• Brought in Education Librarian and worked with them to provide training
  • Participated in IMLS Evidence Synthesis Institute
• Provided a similar workshop that focused more on resources and examples applicable to education disciplines
Results

• Extended the pilot through summer 2023 and the 2023-2024 academic year
  • 11 searches completed by librarians during first year
  • 8 searches completed during the 2023-2024 academic year
• Financial support from CHHS for Covidence continues
Results

- Searches Completed
  - CHHS: 11
  - COED: 8
- 1 poster presentation accepted at professional conference
- 4 articles submitted for publication
- 1 article published as of June 5th, 2024
Some topics covered

• Provision of PreP in African American Women
• Generative AI and writing in medicine and nursing
• Health disparities among adults living with multiple sclerosis in rural regions globally
• Impact of interactive learning components in healthcare degree advancement programs
• Landscape for building teacher’s ability to teach computing and computer science at the K-12 level
Next steps

• Continue pilot phase of service with workshops offered during the summer and fall of 2024
• Looking to train additional librarians to make this a more long-term and sustainable library service
Thank you!

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