

Examines the Role of Information Professionals and Librarians in Medical Research (A Case Study on the Zabol University of Medical Sciences in 2015)

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Abstract: The aim of this study was to investigate the role of librarians and information professionals in their role in advancing biomedical research is the research process. Research libraries have a mutual influence on each other. Library and Information as well as researchers can not only produce knowledge could help researchers are also investigating process. Libraries collect, organize and disseminate information, research and development of the country plays an important role. This survey to collect data, two researcher-made questionnaire that ranks among the 50 researchers (20 students and 30 professors active research drummer) and 15 librarian notification was distributed. Spss 18 software was used for data analysis. Of the 65 patients, 61 patients 84/93% responded to the questionnaire, by 15 librarians, 29 teachers and 17 students were completed. Professors, research scholars of library books used more. The researchers in the study were 15 librarian willing to help but only 68% of researchers were reluctant to seek help from librarians. About 5/41% of researchers and 20% of librarians familiar with at least 60% of the library and information services reference librarians from the librarians and researchers lack of information as the main reason for the lack of help from librarians said. It is necessary, holding workshops, knowledge of the capabilities of researchers, librarians and library facilities increase. Librarians also need to raise the level of research and scholarship information and engage with your role in informing their research.

Key words: Librarian, researcher, library, medical, knowledge

INTRODUCTION

In today's world research activities and science production play an important role in developing and promoting a country. As, in today's world the scientific war has been replaced with the military war. And new methods are taken placed in the field of research methods every day and supersede the traditional methods. Librarians and information professionals should have an active and dynamic role in this field and try to direct the researchers in the process of research data. Since, there are different domains in the field of research, librarians and corresponding professionals should be aware of all fields, and librarians should also have such skills as search expertly, information analyst, submit the results, evaluate the texts and prepare the reports (Mann *et al.*, 2006).

Beverly and his colleagues believe that the librarians have been changed from (those who find evidence) and (those who provide evidence) to (those who filter the texts), (analysts and educators and expanders). There are different aspects in research fields and the librarian is expected to play an important role in all these aspects and steps. He can be used as a controller and the interface between the two axes in interdisciplinary researches (Beverly *et al.*, 2003).

Librarians need to be updated with advanced technologies and be familiar with all new methods and technologies that growing from day to day. They should familiar with the methods and technologies such as classifying the resources, types of researches, retrieving online subjects and virtual databases. Librarians can surely gain experienced over time, so that the experience may increase the researcher's speed and accuracy in research process.

In a systematic approach we must place the researchers and librarians as a separate unit of the system, in which librarians play role as informational and professional consultants and somehow considered as a connector between information manufacturers and researchers (Alpi, 2005).

In accordance with the article of Iran's National Library's constitution, national library is considered as the scientific, educational and research institute that librarianship scientific planning and researches, informing and participating in international researches and activities is considered as one of its objectives.

On the other hand; the library, as a scientific center, spends the significant portion of its budgets for such activities as research affairs, researchers' budget and access to research evidence and resources. Librarianship and information profession has a direct correlation with the advancement of community knowledge as well as many dimensions of human knowledge.

Volk (2007) has examined the role of librarian at the age of communications and internet and the results of 566 users' evaluation form are studied in the years 2000-2006. The results showed that the majority of users 83% were satisfied with the information obtained by the librarianship expert and 51% stated that research results have a major impact on the quality of their lives and 96% believed that some new subjects were found by a librarian for them. The authors and researchers are trying to answer these questions:

- In which research processes, librarians are able to help them
- Is their information adequate for the research fields

However, a reliable environment must be created for the writers to be able to rely on the librarian and communicate with him. Should see now considering the massive transformations in technology how can we discuss about the policies and related approaches to librarianship issue?

MATERIALS AND METHODS

According to statistical discussion of the study, survey method was used by the research team. In the study, the researcher had tried to create two questionnaires using the rosters of all librarians of different schools and the rosters of all professors and students who were active in research fields (50 researchers includes: 20 students and 30 professors) and basically through data collection, approved by using the relevant professors' opinions. And it is distributed as a verbal among the population.

The collected data were entered into the software SPSS 21 and the results were obtained: Cronbach's alpha coefficient was obtained as 71 and 79% for both researcher and librarian's questionnaires, respectively. And the questionnaire was completed by 50 researchers (20 students and 30 professors) and 15 librarians.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

(Out) of 65 subjects, 61 subjects 93/84% had responded to the questionnaires which are completed by 15 librarians, 29 professors and 17 students (Table 1).

The Frequency of librarians' research studies and their involvement with researches were analyzed, in which 8 of librarians 60% have 5-10 Articles, 3 librarians 20% have more than 10 articles and 4 librarians 26/6% have less than four articles. Researchers and librarians' acquaintance with printing and electronic resources were also evaluated, in which all 15 librarians 100% were familiar with print resources but only 8 librarians 53% were familiar with electronic resources. Students' acquaintance with print resources was about 35% 6 subjects and their familiarity with electronic resources was considered as 11% 2 subjects. 23% of these students also stated to have pretty little familiarity with printing and electronic resources. Professors' acquaintance with print resources was considered as 86% 20 subjects and their familiarity with electronic resources was about 58%, 17 subjects. About 20% 6 subjects of professors believed to have relatively complete acquaintance with electronic and printing resources (Fig. 1).

The tendency to request help from librarians was examined in carrying out the research. Every 15 librarians were willing to help the researchers in research affairs but only 68% 42 subjects of researchers were reluctant to seek help from librarians to perform the research process (Fig. 2).

The reasons for not seeking help from librarians in advancing researches were also examined from researchers' point of view. About 25 subjects of researchers 41/5% had stated to have little acquaintance with information and reference services of libraries and librarians, 20 subjects 32/7% explained about using other items to meet information (al) needs, 6 subjects 0/09% had expressed about low access to librarian and 10 subjects, 8/16% mentioned librarian's lack of time as main reasons for not seeking help from librarians to carry out the research process (Fig. 3).

The reasons for not seeking help from librarians in promoting the research were also examined from librarians' point of view. 9 subjects of librarians 60% had

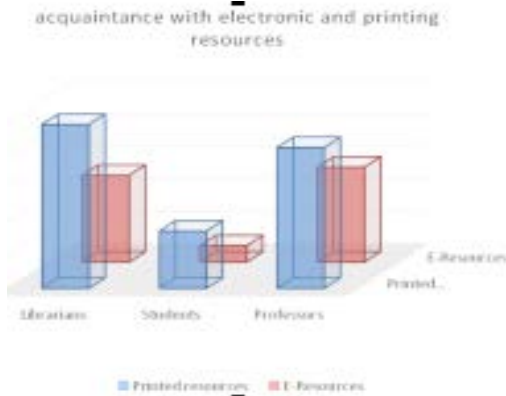


Fig. 1: Complete acquaintance of resources

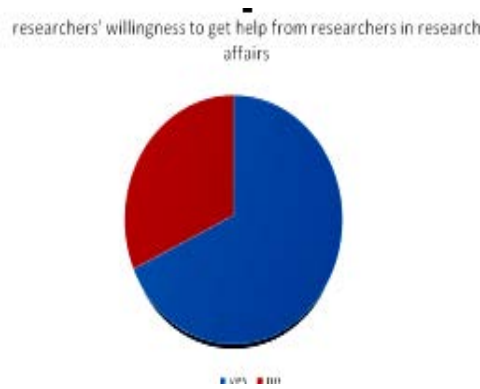


Fig. 2: Tendency to get help in research affairs

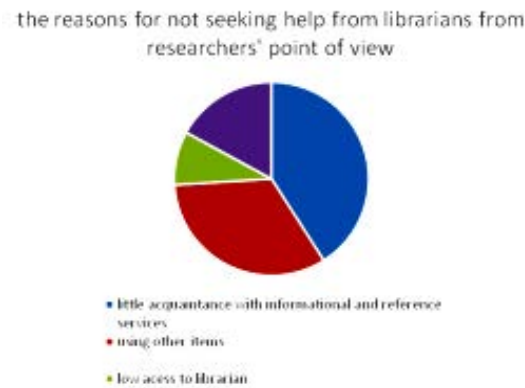


Fig. 3: Reasons from researchers point of view

stated researchers' ignorance of librarians' capability and asking for help from them, 3 subjects 20% expressed little acquaintance of researchers about informational and reference services of library, 2 subjects 13% had explained little knowledge of librarians in research fields, 1 subject 6% said inadequacy of time to guide researchers, as the main reasons for not seeking help from librarians (Fig. 4).

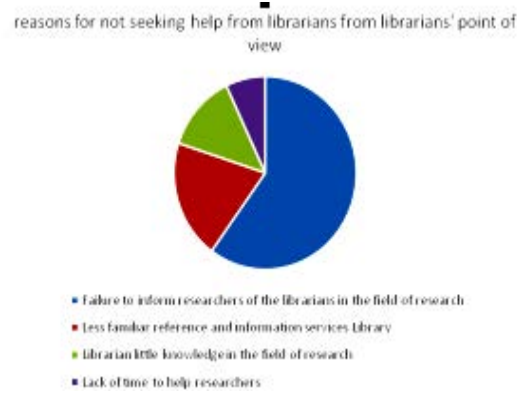


Fig. 4: Reasons from librarians point of view

CONCLUSION

Considering the analysis of questionnaires completed by researchers, 26/6 of librarians had <4 articles, it can be said that the subjects are not completely familiar with research process and methods.

Perhaps, it can be considered as one of the main reasons for not committing to librarians. Researchers had maximum contributions of librarians in process of data collection and they were also least likely to help from librarians in process of determining researchers' issues. Librarians; as one of the members of research team, valuable directories and resources, should try to choose bibliographic databases, scheduling, searching and offering suitable solution to find resources and review the results. Librarians' acquaintance with electronic resources was only 20%, so it is necessary to promote their acquaintance and capabilities by holding training courses and workshops, in order to use electronic references and resources. 41/5% of researchers and 20% of librarians conceive little acquaintance of librarians with informational and reference services of library and 60% of librarians apprehend researchers' ignorance of librarians' capabilities as the main reason for non-seeking help from librarians.

In fact, researchers knew librarians as book keepers. They said, "Do librarians also help in research?" So it is necessary for librarians to inform their role and status by increasing their information, more involvement with research process and scholarship. Librarians' contribution with researchers in research affairs allows the researchers to interpret library and librarians as a reference place of knowledge and information, instead of using other informational channels. We should employ those librarians who are thematic specialists and having necessary qualifications (in order) to advance the researches. They must also worked in various

informational and reference sectors. Due to asking for help from librarians and the usefulness of the aid, librarians have little interaction with researchers while librarians considered the request as a useful contribution. Bateni explained that >80% of research project managers had stated that librarians and information professionals must present in research teams. In the study of Bateni, a higher percentage 46/6% believed on the usefulness of librarians' aid. The difference between librarians and researcher's point of view about the usefulness of the contribution indicates that there is a gap between librarians' services and users' expectations. It is necessary for librarians to recognize their audience expectations.

Atkinson and Figueroa (1997) also found that students prefer to get help from their classmates rather than a librarian. So it is necessary to hold continuous and frequent refresher trainings and the other researches should examine the other factors to create librarians motivation and also investigated their job satisfaction. The results must also used to improve the situation (Atkinson and Figuera, 1997).

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