Embedded in the promotion of evidence-based healthcare
Experiences of information specialists involved in Joanna Briggs Institute collaborative centres

Blanche Kiszio1,2 & Cécile Jaques1,2

1 School of Nursing Sciences Library, La Source, University of Applied Sciences & Arts of Western Switzerland, Lauzanne, HES-SO, Switzerland
2 Bureau d’Échange des Savoirs pour des pratiques exemplaires de soins (BEST): A Joanna Briggs Institute Centre of Excellence, Switzerland
3 Medical Library, Research and Education Department, Lausanne University Hospital, Lauzanne, Switzerland

Context
The Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) is an international non-profit organisation for the promotion and support of synthesis, transfer and utilisation of evidence-based healthcare. The institution is based at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, and works with more than 70 collaborating centres worldwide through the Joanna Briggs Collaboration (JBC). JBC researchers need to comply with particular standards for systematic reviews and JBI recommends to get the help of an experienced research librarian/information scientist for the process.

Support for JBI systematic reviews
All librarians (95%, n=19) support JBI systematic reviews. This pyramid shows the large diversity of activities carried out by librarians always, often or sometimes (from bottom to top).

Teaching and Counselling
52% of the respondents are involved in teaching sessions of the JBI “Comprehensive Systematic Review Training Program”.

Other activities
- JBI librarians participate in other activities including:
  - Organisation of JBI events
  - Evidence-based information retrieval for JBI projects
  - Critical appraisal for JBI systematic review protocol search strategies
  - Attending of the scientific committees, JBI methods groups or JBI directors meetings
  - Participation in the librarian’s mailing list “Influence group”
  - Participation in JBI systematic group topic discussions
  - Editing of news and media messages for the JBI centre [Twitter, Facebook]

Results: Activities
A total of 20 responses were received. Most librarians (n=13) responded that they were member of the JBI Centre staff. The others indicated that their library was the reference library of the JBI Centre (n=7). One librarian, member of a JBI affiliated group approved only in early 2019, has not started JBI related activities yet.

Aim
To review the role of librarians involved in JBI entities and to examine the opportunities and benefits for librarians of bringing their expertise outside the library.

Methodology
This study utilized a survey-based qualitative data collection. Quantitative and qualitative research methodology was applied to textual data drawn from an online survey (n = 20). The authors created an anonymous online survey, including both multiple choice (quantitative) and open-ended text (qualitative) questions. There were 30 questions about support for systematic reviews, counselling and teaching, and the benefits for the librarians.

Results: Benefits and opportunities
To explore the benefits for JBI librarians of the collaboration with JBI Centres, qualitative open-ended test questions were used about professional skills, working relationship with researchers, new collaborations, projects or services and visibility of the Library. For each question, the majority of the answers were positive.

Teaching and Counselling
- It gives me more authority as an expert searcher
- Working relationships with researchers
- Increased collaboration and joint authorship
- We have seen more of each other’s work and expectations and now have more respect for each other
- Working at [the JBI Centre] is a unique opportunity to work on the “coalface” with researchers
- It does help researchers identify my skills and which services our library can offer
- Members of the JBI center tell colleagues of the services the library can provide
- Boot camp in the Summer for doctoral students on doing systematic reviews
- Systematic literature searching course for doctoral students

Authorship
Absolutely
Visibility of the library
- Absolutely
- Visibility
- Authorship is visible
- Certain, our services are often known by word of mouth

Planning for a data management and research support position

Development of new services or projects

References


Contact Us
blanche.kiszio@ecolelasource.ch - cecile.jaques@hosa.ch