The Development of the Systematic Reviews Special Interest Group of MLA

Conveners
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7 Steps to creating a SIG

1. Sent proposal to Chair of the Section/SIG Review Committee
2. Feedback from Section Council representatives
3. Approved Statement of Purpose was used to seek signatures
4. Over 150 signatures from MLA members were collected
5. SR SIG was approved
6. Created website
7. First meeting held at MLA

SR SIG Goals

Short term goals
• Develop and maintain a website of resources on systematic reviews
• Provide forum to share experience and knowledge on systematic review services and research
• Facilitate professional development opportunities and continuing education on systematic reviews
• Provide forum for mentoring librarians as they learn the SR process

Long term goals
• Provide a platform for peer review of search strategies for systematic reviews
• Develop and promote standards for systematic review methods, especially search strategies
• Develop a credentialing program for librarians working on systematic reviews
• Develop a list of librarians with expertise in systematic review methods

Assertions of SRSIG

• Systematic reviews are recognized as an important method in healthcare research
• There has been a sharp increase in utilization of the systematic review method by researchers and clinicians
• Librarians have been vital in conducting and improving the methods of systematic reviews
• Institute of Medicine of the National Academies standards require that a librarian be part of the process/team
• Systematic review methods are complex and take years to fully learn
• The standards, methods, and products are still evolving.

References

Communication

Website: http://srsig.mlanet.org

Listserv: SR SIG appreciates using the Expert Searching listserv hosted by MLA Public Services Section: http://pss.mlanet.org/mailman/listinfo/expertsearching_pss.mlanet.org