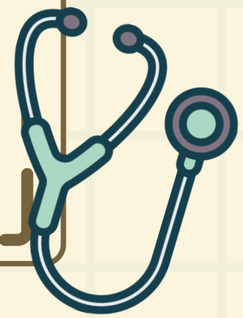
GROWING TOGETHER

SCAFFOLDING SYSTEMATIC REVIEW TRAINING FOR EARLY-CAREER LIBRARIANS



PRESENTERS:
BRYN MURPHY, MLIS, AHIP & EMILY ADYDAN, MSLS

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VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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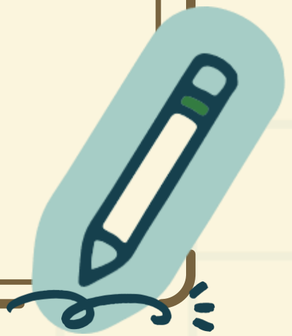
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Neither authors have any conflicts of interest to disclose for this presentation.

BACKGROUND

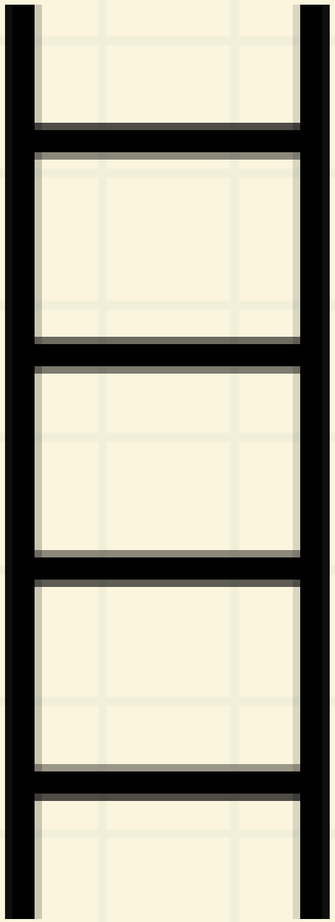


- Both early-career librarians with less than 3 years experience
- Different starting points
  - Emily's first job post-Master's
  - Bryn's second job post-Master's
- Different concentrations during Master's program
  - Neither had Systematic Reviews training during their program

ENVIRONMENT

- Eskind Biomedical Library at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN (R1 research institute)
- Affiliated with the larger Vanderbilt University (VU) and the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC)
  - Includes hospitals, outpatient medical centers, centers, institutes
  - Only Level 1 Trauma Center in Tennessee
- The University covers School of Medicine and School of Nursing
- 10 person team with 6 full-time librarians
  - Review services offered to VU and VUMC
- Larger VU library system with 8 libraries

SCAFFOLD



Level 4: Perform

Level 3: Practice

Level 2: Acquire

Level 1: Observe

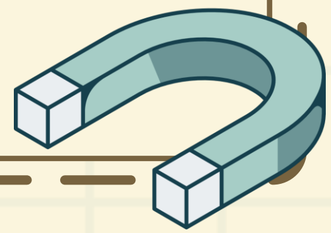
OBSERVE

- Sitting in on other team members' Systematic Review consults
  - Listen to sequence of questions for reference interview
- Ask questions
- Take notes
- Watch team members create search strings for complex topics
- Read over search documentation

Observe

Acquire

ACQUIRE



- Formal Systematic Review specialization through the Medical Library Association (MLA)
  - Systematic Review Service Specialization Level 1
  - 13 hours of webinars on specialized Reviews topics
- Included webinars, courses, CEs, and database certifications
- Formal certification issued by the MLA upon completion

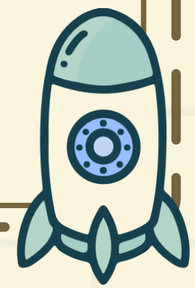
Practice

PRACTICE

- Peer mentoring with other team members
- Practice searches
  - Individualized feedback from mentor
- Begin independent consults
  - Mentor sits in to provide guidance and help answer questions
- Translation practice for other databases
- Proofreading for old searches
- Evidence Synthesis practice

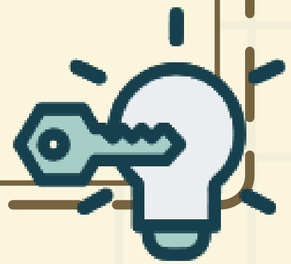
Perform

PERFORM



- Independent consults
  - Added to Review service
  - Meet with research teams for solo projects
- Builds and executes searches
  - Peer review from mentors according to PRESS guidelines
- Continuing education on Systematic Reviews
  - Certifications, courses, webinars, seminars, literature

TAKEAWAYS



1. Both librarians felt more confident and prepared with the Systematic Review process after completing this scaffolded approach.
2. Clear benchmarks provide direction and purpose during the learning process.
3. Benefits include low stress for new librarians, high support from mentors, opportunity for peer connection, and longtitudinal learning.

CONCLUSION

- This process built autonomy in learning and created highly confident, independent librarians.
- Scaffolded Systematic Review training is essential to preparing librarians to be active partners in the research lifecycle.
- Formalizing this approach could benefit future librarians in similar working environments.

THANK YOU

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