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Hospital Libraries: A Path Forward

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Hospital Libraries: A Path Forward

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MLA '18 in Atlanta

May 20, 2018

What we can do globally

Work on change globally as HLS or a community of hospital librarians

- Conduct a cost benefit study
- Advocate with other professional organizations – ANA, AMA, AHA, Magnet, TJC
- Raise awareness through publication, social media, blogs
- Promote medical librarianship to LIS students and develop new librarians
- Create a medical librarian pop culture icon!

What we can do locally

Locally in your organization:

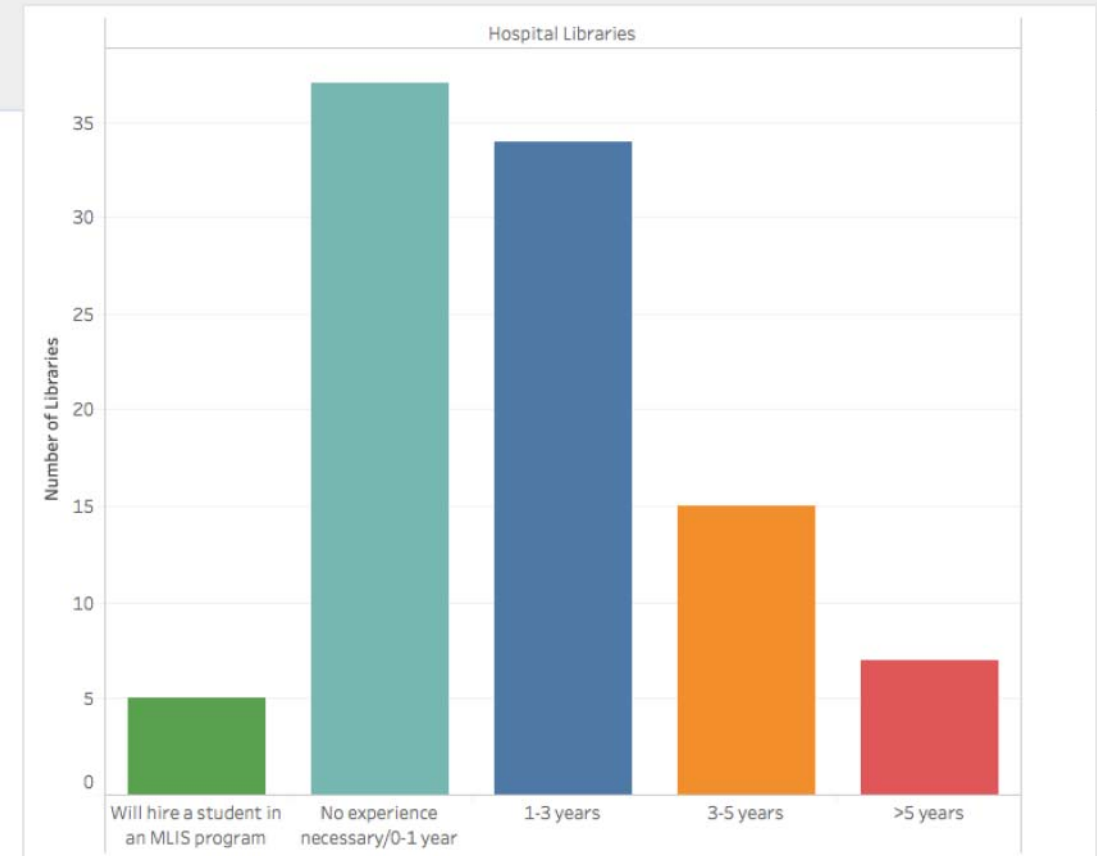
- Be prepared
- Market yourself and your library
- Develop partnerships internally
- Develop partnerships with vendors
- Promote medical librarians and medical librarianship

Path to medical librarianship

We lack a path to professional jobs.

Hospital libraries and new graduates:

- 31% would hire a new graduate
- 25% offer internships to LIS students (29 out of 116 libraries)
- 2% offer a residency (2 libraries)



System Library Services - from 1 to 50 in 3 easy steps

- 4 individual libraries serving 8 hospitals.
- Opportunity to regionalize.
- Dreaming bigger – systematizing library services.
- Joining forces with St. Joseph Health/Covenant. Library becomes one of the first departments to integrate.



We described it

Martin HJ, Delawska-Elliott B. Combining resources, combining forces: regionalizing hospital library services in a large statewide health system. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2015;103(1):44-48. doi:10.3163/1536-5050.103.1.009.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4279934/>

Huffman IR, Martin HJ, Delawska-Elliott B. Creating a library holding group: an approach to large system integration. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2016;104(4):315-318. doi:10.3163/1536-5050.104.4.013.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5079496/>

Stayed tuned for the description of the latest integration...

Acknowledgements and how to contact me

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