About Georgia State University
Campuses
Alpharetta
Atlanta
Clarkston
Decatur
Dunwoody
Newton

Students Fall 2018
52,000 enrolled
34,000 @ Atlanta campus
Supporting Researchers vs. Researching
“The committee shall assist and encourage research and publication by members of the library faculty. The committee shall disseminate information regarding research opportunities, and shall sponsor meeting and events to assist library faculty members with research topics and techniques. The committee shall administer the library faculty research mentoring program. In addition, committee members will be available to advise faculty members about research, publication in general, and specific projects.”

~Georgia State University Library Bylaws
“I proposed the collaborative after seeing a **consistent desire from my colleagues** to learn how to conduct a research study.”

~Raeda
“As someone who has taught in higher education for over a decade and is a research expert, I know most people learn research through conducting research rather than listening to a lecture or reading textbooks. Thus, I saw a collaborative as a unique opportunity to use my knowledge and background within the library to help address the needs for more research skills among my colleagues.”

~Raeda
Collaborative Learning Objectives

- Transform research questions into measures
- Write quality survey questions
- Format a survey
- Collect data
- Analyze data
Phases of the Collaborative

Focus Group → Survey Design → Data Collection → Analysis
Focus Group
4 members of Library Administration

Questions Asked
1. If you could know anything about the people in the library, what would it be?
2. What do you want to know about patron interactions with library faculty/staff?
3. What do you want to know about faculty, staff, and community members?
Collaborative Lesson Plan

- Research Process
- Overview of Survey Design
  - Conceptualization
  - Operationalization
  - Generating Indicators (Survey Questions)
- Survey Development and Execution
  - Overview of Data Collection
  - Generate Survey
  - Data Collection Plan
- Data Analysis
“The main objective during each session was to support Dr. Raeda Anderson and library participants in developing their research skills by actively engaging with librarians from the research perspective.”

~George
Data Collection

4, 1-hour time slots, M-W
10-11 am / 11 am-12 pm / 12-1 pm / 3-4 pm

Data Collectors
2-3 investigators in small group
iPad & tablets
Raeda & George supervised

Data Collection Parameters
Gain consent
Every floor but silent floor
Ask once
Anonymity
Patron Survey

Focus Areas
1. Use of Library Space
2. Library Services
3. Patron Demographics
Use of Library Space

1. How long do you plan on spending in the library today?
2. What is the main reason that you picked your current spot?
3. How frequently do you come to the library?
4. What brought you to the library today?

5. Have you used the following resources at the GSU library?

**Services:**
- Borrowing technology
- Check out resources
- Class/workshop
- Chat reference
- Help with research
- Access to databases/journals
- Special Collections

**Response options:**
- Use
- Do not use but interested
- Do not use & not interested
Patron Survey continued

**Patron Demographics**
6. What is your current status?
7. What is your sex?
8. What is your major/department?
Assessing the Collaborative
"An increased self-perception of skill was my ultimate goal. For people to feel more confident in looking things up and trying."

~Raeda
Thinking back on your experience, how much did each of the following components contribute to your knowledge of the research process?

**Participant Comments**

- “It helped to demystify and clarify the survey research process.”
- “I am less overwhelmed by the process. I can think through how to plan a project better now.”
- “I better understand the steps involved in conducting a research project.”
- “I like the concept that research doesn’t have to be difficult or elaborate to get useful, publishable information.”
Thinking back on your experience, how much did each of the following components contribute to your knowledge of the research process?

- Develop research questions
- Literature Review

**Participant Comments**

- “It’s…good to know what tools are available for data collection and analysis.”
- “The Collaborative improved my ability to create and analyze survey data.”
- “I’ll feel more confident about developing question wording [and] identifying relevant questions to ask.”
- “I feel a little more confident embarking on my own research projects and developing surveys.”
- “I now have a blueprint to continue my progress towards developing a journal article.”
“The Collaborative was an overwhelming success. In the span of one week, my colleagues were able to learn about the research process, design survey questions, collect data, and complete basic analysis.

Since the Collaborative has ended, I have noticed that beyond the skills learned, many faculty members are more openly communicating with each other about their research and seeking guidance for their own studies.”

~Raeda
Other Takeaways

• Quick data collection
• Value of experiential learning
• Connections between
Future Plans
Final Thoughts

- Teamwork
- New skills
- Interdisciplinarity
- Future assessment
- Culture of assessment
Questions?

Contact Us!
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