Twenty-First Century Music Librarianship

Variations on a Theme

Presented at the conference of the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians/
L’Association canadienne des bibliothécaires académiques professionnels,
Brock University, St. Catharines, ON, May 25th – 26th, 2014.
Core Values of Music Librarianship

Music librarians:
1.1. Work to advance the goals of their employing organizations;
1.2. Recognize the diversity of musics, library users (the client group), staff and the wider community, and encourage all in their musical endeavors and enquiries;
1.3. Are committed to excellence in all areas of service;
1.4. Continually assess the effectiveness of provided and potential materials and services;
1.5. Are effective communicators;
1.6. Participate in the professional community.

Scholarly & Professional Activity of Music Librarians

- Sampling period: 2003-2013
- 2 data sets:
  - Journal citations
  - Conference presentations
- Applied subject categories to identify trends
Methods

● Documentary analysis, citation analysis
## Dougan Classification

<p>| 1. Musicology | music of a particular composer, country, or genre, including bibliography, discography, iconography, history, checklists. |
| 2. Collections of Music | specific collections in individual libraries. |
| 3. Printing &amp; Publishing | including editing, engraving, copyright, and periodicals. |
| 5. Collection Development &amp; Acquisitions | |</p>
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<th>7. Information Literacy</th>
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<th>8. Cataloging [sic]</th>
<th>including classification, and archival arrangement.</th>
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<td>9. Libraries</td>
<td>library facilities and equipment, histories of individual libraries.</td>
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<td>10. Preservation &amp; Formats</td>
<td></td>
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<td>11. Technology</td>
<td>including automation and ILSes.</td>
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Sources Part One: Journal Citations

- Exported citations from Répertoire International de Littérature Musicale (RILM), 2003-2013:
Criteria - Journal Citations

Included
- Original articles
- Review essays

Excluded
- Reviews
- Conference reports
- Editorials
- Administrative items
Results: Journal Citations

- 156 citations:
  - 119 collected from *MRSQ*
  - 37 collected from the *Review*
MRSQ, 2003-2013

- Technology: 17.6%
- Cataloging: 4.2%
- Information Literacy: 10.9%
- Music Librarians & Librarianship: 6.7%
- Musicology: 19.3%
- Collections of Music: 16.8%
- Reference & Services: 12.6%
Review, 2003-2013

- Technology: 8.1%
- Cataloging: 10.8%
- Reference & Services: 8.1%
- Printing & Publishing: 8.1%
- Collections of Music: 21.6%
- Musicology: 24.3%

Total: 100%
Sources Part Two: Conference Presentations

- Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centres (CAML)
- Music Library Association (MLA)
  - 2003-2013
Criteria- Conference Presentations

Included
- Presentations
- Posters

Excluded
- Committee/roundtable meetings
- Town halls
- Tours, receptions, performances
- Non-music librarian sessions
- “Hot topics”
- Sessions of other associations
- Sessions lacking sufficient information
Results: Conference Presentations

- 559 presentations:
  - 78 presentations from CAML conferences
  - 481 presentations from MLA conferences
MLA Conferences 2003-2013

- Technology: 8.9%
- Libraries: 4.4%
- Cataloging: 10%
- Information Literacy: 7.7%
- Music Librarians & Librarianship: 8.3%
- Collections of Music: 7.5%
- Reference & Services: 11.4%
- Musicology: 29.5%

Total: 100%
Trend One: Focus on the User

- Increase in information literacy category
- Development of Music Information Literacy Standards
- Emphasis on teaching
- Emphasis on studying users to identify their needs
Trend Two: New Collections & Services

- Among top three categories, emphasis on:
  - Streaming media services
  - Digital collections
  - Wider engagement with societal trends
Future Directions

- Obtain abstracts for conference presentations
  - More detailed analysis of selected categories
- Multiple indexers
- Other data sources, such as:
  - Listserv discourse
  - Job ads
- Experiment with other methods
  - Text analysis, discourse analysis
- Mixed methods approach
  - Interviews or surveys
Thank you

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