Measuring the Link between Diversity-Awareness Training & Inclusive Information Literacy Instruction

ISSUES

INCREASING DIVERSITY OF STUDENT POPULATION

11% of students in higher education institutions report a disability

33% of undergraduate students enrolled in U.S. colleges & universities are considered nontraditional (Markle, 2015)

Empirical research exploring the effectiveness of diversity-awareness and inclusive instruction design training to academic librarianship is rare in the literature reviewed

SOLUTIONS

UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

- Provides multiple methods of engagement, representation, & expression (cast.org)
- From accommodation to inclusion

DIVERSITY-AWARENESS TRAINING

Cultural competence, “a congruent set of behaviors, attitudes, and policies that enable a person...to work effectively in cross cultural situations” (ACRL, 2012).

“Training can help librarians learn to modify instruction to different cultural, linguistic and learning styles and can enhance reference and instructional encounters” (Mestre, 2010)

“A positive influence in promoting inclusive instruction” (Lombardi, et al., 2011)

MEASUREMENT

INCLUSIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES INVENTORY

A Likert scale survey designed to measure instructors’ Attitudes & Actions related to inclusive instruction design

6 Subscales:
1. Multiple means of presentation
2. Inclusive lecture strategies
3. Accommodations
4. Campus resources
5. Inclusive Assessment
6. Accessible course materials

Findings:
Instructors with prior diversity awareness training and experience were more likely to implement inclusive instruction techniques.

(Dallas, et al., 2016; Lombardi, et al., 2011; West, et al., 2016)