

SCAMeL Professional Development Librarian Exchange

This exchange was a two-way visit with University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) Moody Medical Library and University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center (HSLIC). Below is UTMB Moody Medical Library's visit report and site report.

Visiting Librarian's Report

Name, title, and institution of visitor:

Tara Atkins, Reference Librarian
University of Texas Medical Branch - Moody Medical Library

Institution visited and date of visit:

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center
March 3, 2016

Goals for visit:

HSLIC has unique services I wanted to explore, such as the Envoy program. In addition, I wanted to discover how they approach standard Library functions, including:

- Staffing of service point(s)
- Collection development (policy, print vs. electronic, etc.)
- Library instruction
- Searching and systematic review services
- Promotion activities (services, resources, best practices)
- Interlibrary loan/document delivery
- Services and support provided to distance students

The knowledge gained can be used to shape services and activities provided to the UTMB community.

Itinerary:

9:00am-10:00am	Meet with Faculty Reference Librarians
10:00am-10:30am	Meet with Steve Stockdale (Head of Envoy Program)
10:30am-11:30am	Meet with Service Point Staff (Circulation, Reservations, and Tier 1 IT)
11:30am-1:00pm	Lunch with Monica Rogers (Division Head) and James Perea (Library Services Coordinator)
1:00pm-2:00pm	Library and Domenici Buildings Tour
2:00pm-2:45pm	Presentation to HSLIC staff about UTMB Moody Medical Library
2:45pm-3:15pm	Meet with DD/ILL and Evening Staff
3:15pm-4:00pm	Discuss Collaboration Project – (possible poster for SCC 2016 Conference)
4:00pm-5:00pm	Meet with Holly Shipp Buchanan (Admin)
5:00pm-7:00pm	Dinner with Laura Hall (Division Head), Sarah Morley (Clinical Services Librarian), and Karen Buntin (Library Information Specialist 3)

Goals met or not met:

All of my goals were met during the visit to HSLIC.

Lessons learned:

I learned a lot about HSLIC's Envoy program and how they handle their departments assigned. Some of this knowledge was forwarded to UTMB's Head of Reference to help roll out our liaison program.

It was interesting to see how HSLIC staffs their service point(s) and handles incoming reference questions compared to UTMB. HSLIC's librarians do not staff service points while UTMB's librarians staff the Information Desk.

Suggestions for improvement:

Do not schedule every minute of the day. Allow room in the schedule in case some meetings/events run over, build in time for the candidate to get to the next meeting, small breaks for the candidate, etc.

If giving a presentation on your library, give it at the beginning of the day to set the tone for the rest of your meetings and give the staff background of your library.

UTMB Moody Medical Library Site Report

Name, title, and institution of host site coordinator:

Becky McKay Johnson, Associate Director of Library Services
University of Texas Medical Branch - Moody Medical Library

Name of visiting librarian and dates of visit:

Monica Rodgers, Division Head
February 11-12, 2016

Estimated number of hours to prepare for visit:

2-3 hours

How did the visit provide a new or different perspective for the library management and staff?

It was helpful to compare and contrast similar services and programs (Testing, Reference, Liaison, IT). It was a broadening experience for Tara, who is a relatively new librarian. It expanded her horizons to experience a different type of organization (more academically focused), a new culture and to give a presentation to her peers. This is a worthy program and we would be happy to participate in the future. Many thanks to SCAMeL.

Would your institution consider hosting another exchange?

Most definitely

Suggestion for improvement:

A suggestion for future participants planning the itinerary is to build short breaks into the schedule. We did not build in any breaks at either institution. Inevitably, meetings are going to run over throughout the day because there is much information and knowledge to share. Having breaks built into the schedule, allows for cushion throughout the day and helps keep meetings on track.

Thanks:

Thank you to SCAMeL for providing me this great opportunity and to HSLIC for being a great host and welcoming me into your library! It is greatly appreciated!