

END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT
LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee

Primary Applicant(s): Susan Edwards
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TITLE OF PROJECT: Collection Analysis for the Social Sciences

Time Period of Grant: FY 2013-14

Amount of Award Received: \$7005

Original Abstract as Submitted: Conduct a citation analysis of doctoral dissertations in political science, economics, business and history to help us understand how well our collections are meeting our users' needs, to identify gaps, and to make more informed decisions about how best to use our resources to support doctoral research. In addition we will gather comparative data which will help us understand if we are equally supporting the disciplines in the social sciences.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

- Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.
The citation analysis for dissertation from business, economics, history and political science from 2008-2012 was completed. We were able to establish the percentages owned by format for each of the disciplines, the types of different materials cited by discipline, the median age of citation by format by discipline, the median number of citations by discipline and the number of non-English language citations by discipline.
- What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered. All the elements we set out to analyze were completed. In addition, we were able to add an analysis by non-English language by format and to employ a methodology that had not been used before in citation analysis.
- Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?
 - Include any relevant quantitative data, if applicable (e.g. How many individuals have benefited from this project? In what way? This may include various output measures such as circulation, reference transactions, program attendance, survey responses, etc. as appropriate.)
 - Include any anecdotes, if applicable.
Yes, the project accomplished what was intended and will have an impact on collections assessment, collection development and library liaisons departmental outreach.
- What would you do differently next time, if anything? Working on a research project of this scope with four very busy librarians made it difficult sometimes to meet deadlines and all focus at the same time. On the other hand, we believe that the final product is much stronger than any of us could have individually accomplished.
- What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants? The LAUC research grant is a fantastic opportunity, it is enlightening to us as librarians to pursue our own research instead of only assisting others with theirs. And it makes us better able to

support our researchers, especially the beginners, to understand first-hand what is involved in taking on a major research project.

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED? Yes X No

If No, what is needed to complete the project? Is more time needed? Or more funds?

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Please explain how the funds received were spent. Attach your original budget and indicate how well your estimates matched with actual expenditures. Receipts are not necessary.

Our original grant requested \$7,005 based on our estimate of 533 hours to enter and verify the estimated 4,000 citations. (We estimated 3 minutes per citation to enter and 5 minutes each to verify.) Our original estimate of the number of citations was low, we actually entered 6,598. However, we were still able to come in under budget because we hired work study students and most importantly, worked with Jon Stiles of Berkeley's D-Lab to extract the citations available from ProQuest Digital Dissertations, cutting down substantially on the time required for entering. Instead of 533 hours we used only 333 hours, so even though we were re-charged \$2,500 for D-Lab consulting (sampling design and frames and obtained XML citation records from provider. Unpacked, converted and combined citation records into department level delimited file. Consulted on coding combined coded records into a common analysis format and provided descriptive a statistics and statistical tests) we will be able to return \$3,363 to the LAUC Research Grant fund.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

What are your plans for disseminating the results of your work? If it will be a web page or product, or published article or book, when will it be available to the public? Include citations/URLs if known.

We have already presented our findings at the ALA Annual Conference: Library Research Roundtable on Data Driven Decision Making. In addition, we will be presenting a poster on our findings at the ARL Assessment Conference in August, 2014, and we plan to submit an article for publication as well.

V. NOTE

Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.