

Research in North Carolina Librarianships

Jinnie Y. Davis, Editor

This column marks a new regular feature of *North Carolina Libraries*: a column devoted to research in and about North Carolina libraries and librarianship. The idea came out of a retreat at which members of the *NCL* editorial board brainstormed about ways to improve the journal. One solution is to focus attention on library research by providing a forum for publicity about library-related research that is being performed by our colleagues in the state or that deals with libraries and librarianship in the state.

On a broader scale, it is also an attempt to contribute to the advancement of our profession. In a recent study, McClure and Bishop report a sense of guarded optimism about the future status of research in library and information science. Among their recommendations for ensuring improvement are increasing the visibility of successful and important research, creating reward structures to recognize high-quality research, strengthening commitment to research in state professional associations, and increasing communication between researchers and practitioners

by including regular research columns in journals.¹ Although the *NCL* editorial board made its own suggestions for changes before this article appeared, the "Library Research Column" ties in neatly with McClure and Bishop's recommendations.

As column editor, I plan to approach this task in a variety of ways. Issues may, for example, cover research by professionals at a single institution, or review master's papers at a library school, or examine research on a single topic related to North Carolina librarianship. Reflecting the membership of *NCLA*, the scope of the column will include all types of librarianship.

I also welcome help from our readers. If any of you are aware of library research that merits attention in this column, or if you would like to contribute to this column, please write or call me at: North Carolina State University Libraries, Box 7111, Raleigh, NC 27695-7111 (tel.: 919-737-3659). Thanks.

Reference

1. Charles R. McClure and Ann Bishop. "The Status of Research in Library/Information Science: Guarded Optimism." *College & Research Libraries* 50 (March 1989): 127-43.

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