

The background is a dark grey chalkboard with white chalk drawings. On the left, there is a large, detailed drawing of a microscope. Above it, a globe of the Earth is drawn. To the right of the globe, there are several test tubes and a beaker. At the bottom, there are sketches of books and a pen. The overall theme is scientific research and education.

Tips and tricks for Science librarians: a dissertation

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Overview

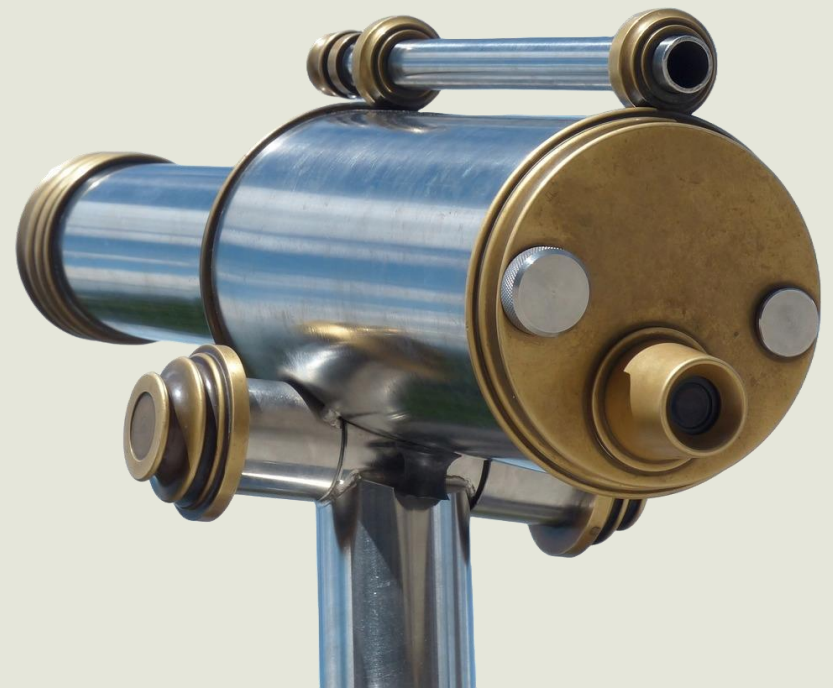
Dissertation topic

Literature review

Findings

Application

Questions



Dissertation Topic

Title:

Tips for Science librarians: Engaging students and academics with information literacy

Research questions:

What are the barriers to embedding information literacy into the curriculum?

Are there advantages to aligning information literacy with the discipline where it is taught?



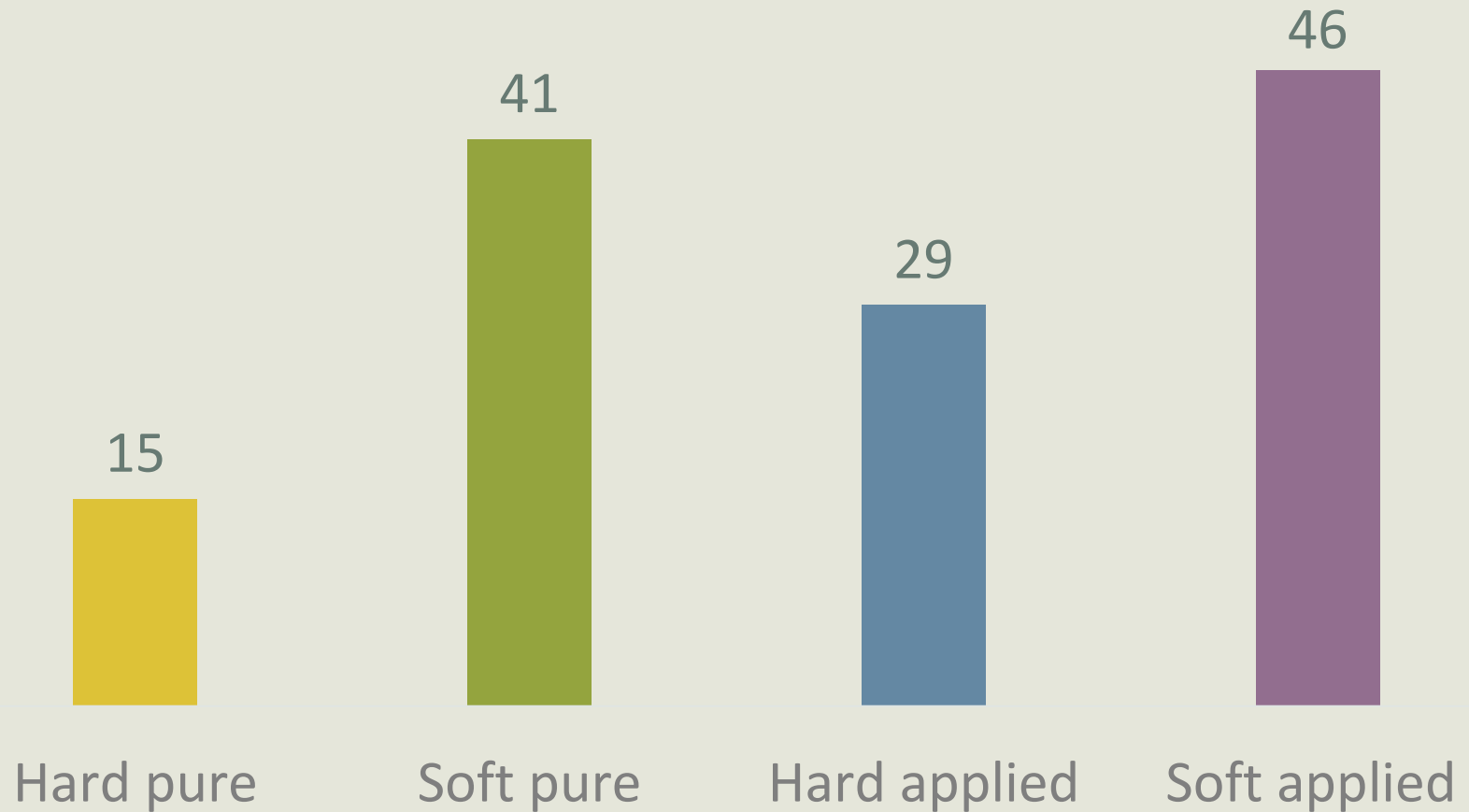
Literature review

Analysis by journal
Analysis by discipline
Analysis by topic

Analysis by journal

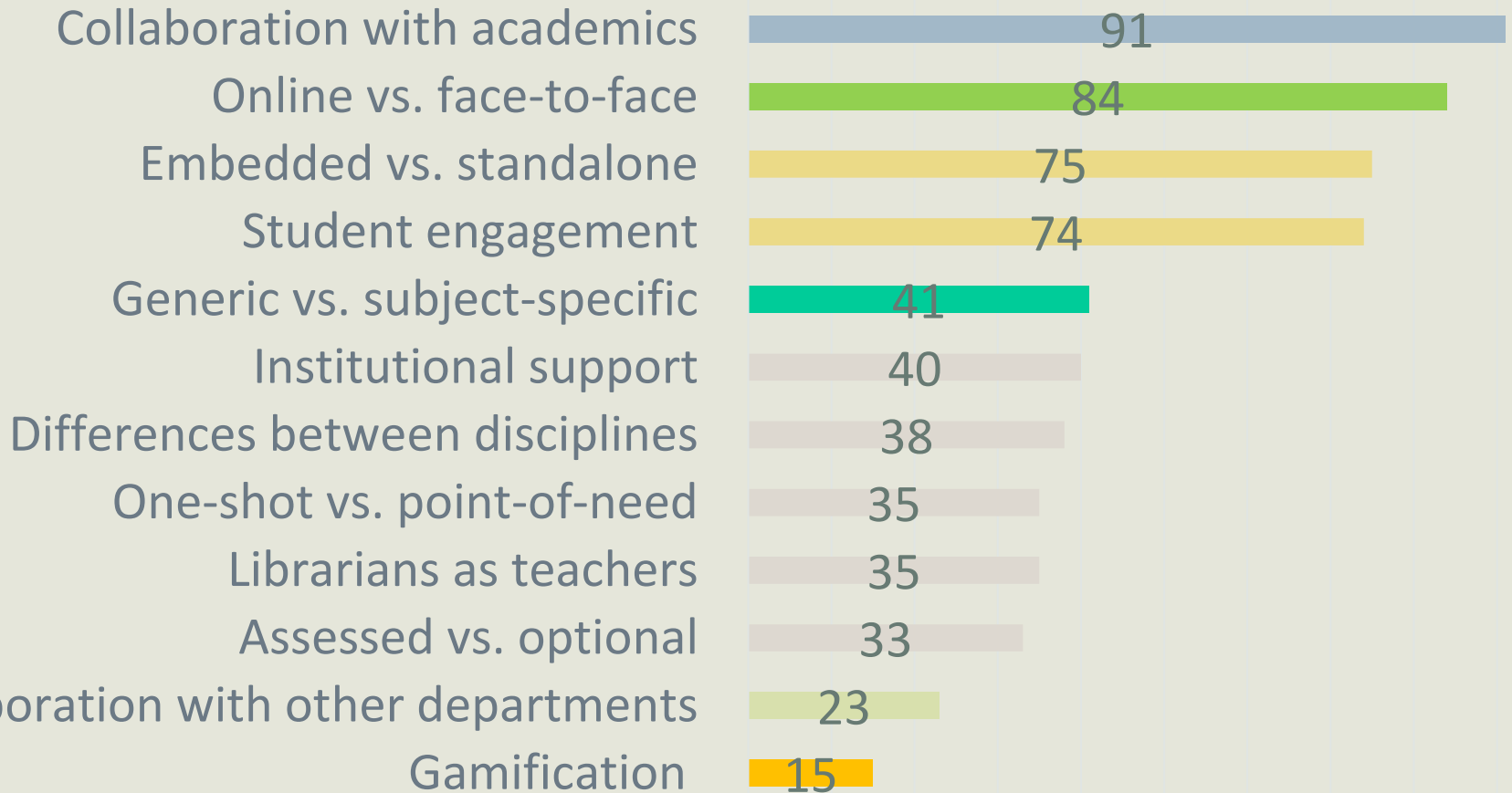


Analysis by discipline



Classified according to Becher and Trowler (2001, p. 36)

Analysis by topic

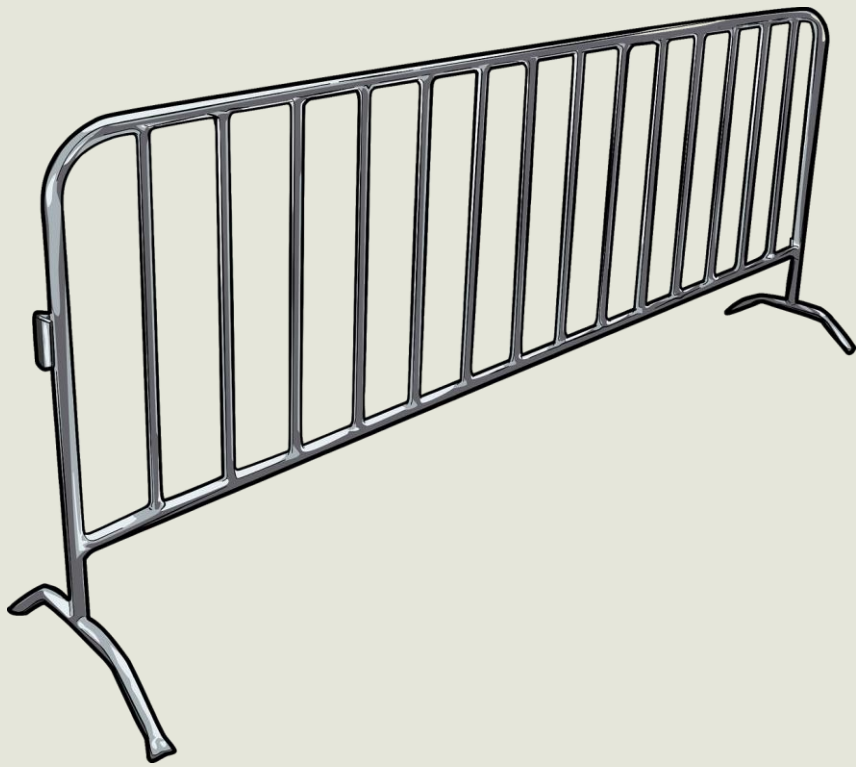




Findings

Barriers to integration
To align or not to align...
Alternative strategies
Recommendations

Barriers to integration



Academic reluctance

Lack of institutional support

Academic perceptions of librarians and IL

Librarian's level of confidence

Lack of integration at the point of need

To align or not to align...

Information literacy – generic vs. subject-specific
Differences between the disciplines



Alternative strategies



Academics as IL teachers
Standalone IL modules
Online materials
IL at the reference desk

Recommendations

Speak their language

Become familiar with your disciplines

Be brave

You don't have to do it all

Librarians who teach are teachers

Create online resources

Don't be discouraged



Application

What did I do?
What worked?
What didn't work?
Results

What did I do?

Drip-drip approach

Get invited to committees

Attend University social events

Get to know academics as people

Develop a good relationship with School admin

Talk about IL without mentioning IL

Demonstrate my expertise

Focus on improving NSS scores

What worked

Demonstrating my knowledge

Demonstrating how I can save academics time

Adapting to the disciplines:

- Learning LaTeX and Python
- Learning more about Open Access
- Referencing in IEEE rather than Harvard
- Alternative referencing software

Word of mouth

Advocacy through students

School admins as allies



What didn't work

One-to-one relationships

Maths

IL not always at point of need

Lack of institutional support



Results

Increase in teaching

Increase in student appointments

Inductions for all departments

Deeper relationships with some academics

Deeper relationships with School admins

Being invited to events

Teaching being booked well in advance

IL at the point of need

More confidence in my abilities



Questions?

