Transitioning & Preparing Library Students: Canadian PD Programs

Amanda R. Kelly
Markham Public Library, akelly@live.ca

Sajni Lacey
Okanagan College, slacey@okanagan.bc.ca

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/fimspub

Part of the Educational Assessment, Evaluation, and Research Commons, Educational Methods Commons, and the Library and Information Science Commons

Citation of this paper:
https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/fimspub/33
**FINDINGS**

A review of PD offerings for Canadian LIS students, as promoted on institutional websites; reported 2011

- Needs of sectors increasingly requiring LIS professionals
- Employment rate remains a central, albeit short-term, success measure for LIS accreditations, graduates have reported feeling ill-prepared for the workforce

**EVALUATION**

Level A: Job Attainment

Focus on securing a position
- Resume, CV, cover letter how-tos
- Portfolio creation
- Mock interviews

Level B: Professional Culture

Intro to field practices, structure, expectations
- Job shadowing
- Informational lectures
- Guest speakers
- Backpack to briefcase\* events
- Career conversations
- Student organization leadership positions

Level C: Career Development

Generating, applying, testing foundational skills for long-term use
- Co-op placements
- Professional contributions
- Student and professional conferences
- Workshop series (goal-based active learning)
- Portfolio projects

**FUTURE RESEARCH**

- Comprehensive annual profile of PD offerings by institution—outlining formal and informal programs, embedded experiential learning\*, and efforts of student organizations
- Longitudinal study to assess the correlation between student PD and key outcomes
- Review of student-oriented PD programs beyond post-secondary institutions, by professional organizations and grassroots groups
- Regular analysis of transferable LIS skills and employment trends beyond traditional librarianship\*
- PD best practices in preparation for employment outside academic librarianship

**REFERENCES**