Introducing ‘Of Interest’

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The role of a librarian is to make sense of the world of information. If that’s not a qualification for superhero-dom, what is? Nancy Pearl, as quoted in the Seattle Times, July 10, 2003.

We hypothesize (pun, of course, intended) that librarians really are super-heroes, putting out small-, mid-, and large-scale fires while dancing between flames, giving our time to keeping up with change. Sharing those experiences, both good and bad, is the best part of practice and research – and making sense of it all is something best done by superheroes!

We’re delighted to announce the start of a new column intended to highlight in-progress library research, and to share information of interest. Publishing your planned or in-progress work in Hypothesis can increase participation and interest in your study, and encourage connections with others working in the same area – the very essence of our community. After your research is complete, consider publication in Hypothesis, a peer-reviewed publication that’s indexed in CINAHL. But there’s more: if you had a poster at MLA, consider submitting a summary. If you see an announcement you think might be of interest to your colleagues, send us a link and a brief annotation.

If you have upcoming research and are interested in promoting it through Hypothesis, please send us the following information:

- Research project working title
- Investigator(s) information: Name, Institution, Position Title
- Contact information for the principal investigator
- Research project description (250-350 words)
- Additional information: survey deadline, project website, etc.
- If you are conducting survey research, you must have obtained Human Subjects approval, and will need to include a brief statement to that effect.
‘Of Interest’ contents will not be limited to dissemination of survey-based research; equal-length summations of planned research in the area of health science librarianship are welcome. Other information considered for publication in the column includes brief summaries or annotated links to research of interest. Use of the structured abstract format for research reports is encouraged, but not mandated, and we will be happy to respond to your questions. *Hypothesis* is published biannually by the MLA Research Section. Items to be included should be sent to the co-editors by March 15 for the Spring/Summer issue and September 15 for the Fall/Winter issue.