Summer 8-5-2016

No, we don’t just read books all day… Developing Statistical Narratives/Infographics for Technical Services

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Repository Citation
Parsons, Amy B., "No, we don’t just read books all day… Developing Statistical Narratives/Infographics for Technical Services" (2016). Library Faculty Scholarship. Paper 7.
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**No, We don’t just read books all day…**

**Developing Statistical Narratives/Infographics for Technical Services**

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**WHY do this?**

Documenting and graphing makes our work applicable to other departments and shows value. “Graphs show the overall shape and patterns in data…” (Few, 2012)

**Statistical Narratives**

Cataloging = DISCOVERABILITY!

Most people have no idea how a book becomes a library book. Explaining the sheer number of materials we handle in technical services can be eye opening.

**How?**

Statistical Narrative DEFINED:

**InfoGraphics:** Combining visual, textual and quantitative information to highlight key facts. (Gardener, 2016)

Keep a journal and especially note any irregularities or trends in any given month. Notes help you tell a story.

I used monthly numbers from Sierra and created graphs in Excel and Google Charts.

Create a “landing page” for your libraries’ numbers. A Libguide organized with tabs for each department where you can share your work.

**Cataloging is only one story:**

- Cataloging
- Resource Sharing Circulation/ILL
- Community Engagement
- Reference questions/appointments
- Library Instruction/Classes
- Digital Initiatives
- Budget/Acquisitions

**Stats Tell Stories**

- Keep it lean and mean
- Identify your audience
- Use concrete examples (Fichter, 2014)

**Works Cited**

