

ABSTRACT

Title: The role of the librarian as research collaborator

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This paper is a case study based on the practical experiences of the authors in the context of participation in increasing numbers systematic review projects. We have seen a development of the role of librarian from simply supporter or trainer to that of collaborator with research groups.

We share our methods of managing the process, including working tools, split of responsibilities, how to estimate potential time commitments, and to arrive at clear agreement with research partners about level of involvement.

The authors see this collaborative work as providing opportunities for personal and professional development, but other beneficial outcomes have been our clearer understanding of working practices and requirements of researchers; the development of stronger ties with research groups in academic departments; and in the research groups, a better awareness and appreciation of information services.