



A Team-Based Liaison Approach to Science Coverage

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Overview

This poster presents a case study of a team-based liaison coverage model for STEM fields during an extended period of turnover and change. The poster identifies areas of need and expert level competences among the team-based liaison approach as an alternative to subject-specific expertise, in contrast to the typical liaison model. It identifies the weaknesses and areas of growth in this model, and discusses the ways that the team-based liaison approach to STEM field coverage contributes to high-impact, temporary library relationship-building with institutional priority disciplines.

Alternative Competencies

In addition to liaison duties, members of the team offer specific expertise and leadership in a variety of functional areas, including:

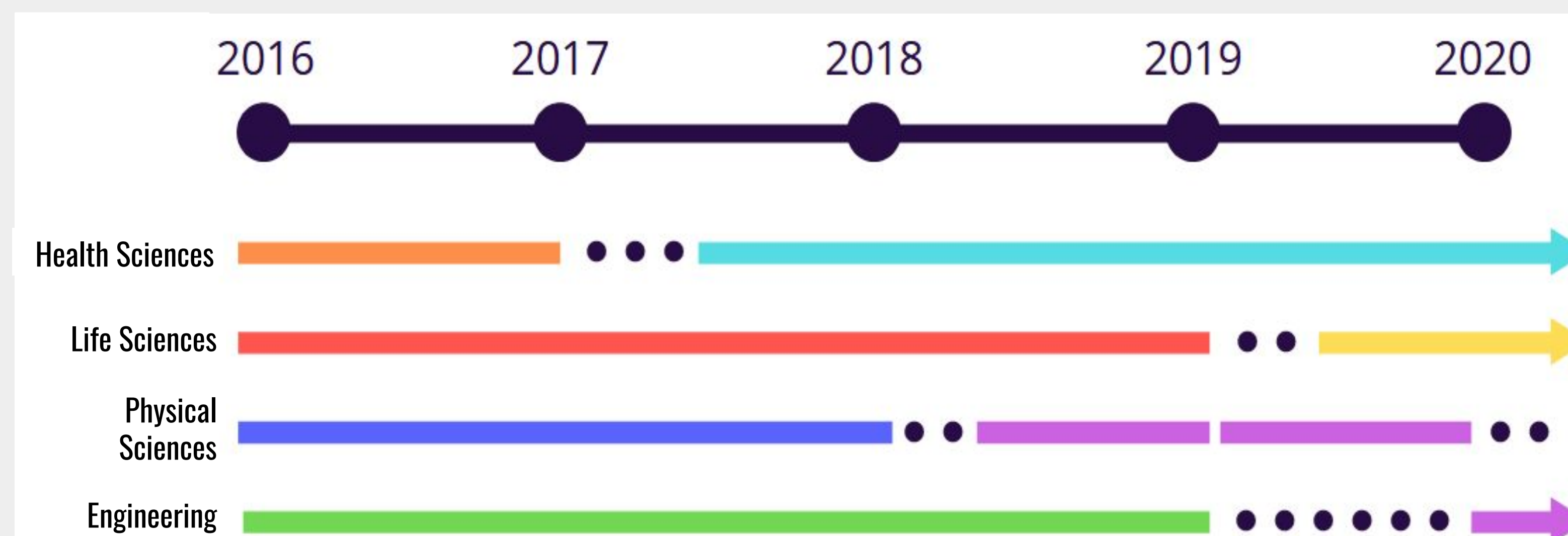
- Patents and trademarks
- Systematic reviews
- Research methodologies
- Outreach and marketing
- Collaborative purchasing

Members of the team cross-train to provide additional coverage of different areas. The team shares a listserv to facilitate shared coverage.

2020 Stats, as of 10/8/20

STEMM Instruction Sessions (courses, graduate orientations, summer programs...)	83
Other STEMM Workshops (Predatory Publishing, Patent Searching, Web of Science...)	24
Reference Interactions-TOTAL	957
Reference Interactions-READ Scale 4 (Reference Knowledge and Skills Needed) and up	268
# of LibGuides/Views	74/68,240
Monographs Budget (2020-2021)	\$276,694.77

Liaison Timeline



Liaison Area Breakdown (2019 Data)

College	Undergraduate Student Enrollment	Graduate Student Enrollment	Faculty (Instructional/Research/Public Service)	All Students + Faculty
College of Agriculture, Forestry & Life Sciences	1,854	337	159	2,350
College of Behavioral, Social & Health Sciences*	1,194	194	71	1,459
College of Engineering, Computing & Applied Sciences**	5,510	1,446	334	7,290
College of Science	2,678	633	262	3,573
TOTALS	11,236	2,610	826	14,672

*Public Health Sciences + School of Nursing Only
 **Automotive Engineering not included

Institutional Priorities

Comprehensive coverage in the Sciences is necessary to support institutional goals, as outlined in the ClemsonForward plan. To that end, this model of liaison coverage supports the goals of:

- Research: Support for this goal includes the growth and sustainment of research infrastructure through library resources.
 - The team specifically supports five of the six innovation clusters outlined in the ClemsonForward plan.
- The Academic Core: Support for this goal includes instructional services and collections which target the enhancement of the classroom experience.
 - Additional support comes in the way of providing space and resources for interdisciplinary engagement.

Areas of Growth

Though the Science Team strives to provide collaborative library services, there are opportunities for improvement, including:

- Cross training in scaffolded instruction outcomes per discipline
 - Analysis of Sciences collections to determine interdisciplinary gaps
 - Internal and external outreach of Science-related programs and tools
- Distribution of instruction and reference remains a challenge during staffing gaps.

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