School of Nursing and Department of Nutrition, Food Science and Packaging at San José State University: Bibliometric Study 2006-2011

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ABSTRACT
• Bibliometrics, the quantification of research output and productivity, offers a way for liaison librarians to learn more about the institutions, impact, and specialties of departments. Understanding the inputs and outputs to the scholarly and research enterprise specific to a librarian's liaison area facilitates a librarian's ability to tailor and subsequently improve future library services.
• This bibliometric study was undertaken to accomplish the following objectives:
  - Identify current knowledge areas of research in the School of Nursing and the Nutrition, Food Science, and Packaging Department of San José State University, limited to the last five years.
  - Identify researchers' preferred publishing sources from these two programs, and
  - Observe the relationship between scientific research production and impact, and specialties of departments. Understanding the inputs and outputs to the scholarly and research enterprise specific to a particular subject area facilitates a librarian's ability to tailor and subsequently improve future library services.

METHODS
• Using Web of Science, Journal Citation Reports, SCOPUS, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) Catalog, and the San José State University's Office of Institutional Research, this study will collect data, including production per year, impact factors of the journals used by the researchers, knowledge areas covered, and the number of citations received, all within the landscape of a fluctuating budget.
• Budget fluctuations are expressed as a function of faculty headcount for each of the years, 2006-2011.
• This study will provide data on research production in two specific health sciences programs in an urban university during the period of 2006-2011.

CONCLUSIONS
• Despite fluctuations in faculty numbers, these programs' departments are highly productive.
• Scholarly and research output may be a by-product of the retention, promotion, and tenure process inherent to academic departments.
• Faculty expertise spanned a wide range of knowledge areas.
• Nursing faculty publications' impact factor was higher than the Web of Science Nursing median (SJSU-1.137 vs. WoS-0.970) and Food Science & Technology subject category median impact factor was higher than the Web of Science Nutrition & Dietetics and Food Science & Technology subject category median impact factor (SJSU-2.426 vs. 2.182 and 0.930, respectively).
• SCOPUS provides greater coverage and discoverability of San José State's Nursing and Nutrition, Food Science, and Packaging publications.

FUTURE AREAS OF RESEARCH
• Expand controlled variables and include Google Scholar
• Analyze any connections between productivity and faculty rank and status
• Analyze any connections between grant funding and productivity
• Identify collaborations at the intra- and inter-University levels
• Expand the years of analysis for greater data extrapolation