

An abstract graphic on the left side of the slide features a dark background with various colorful lines and shapes. These include a blue line forming a large 'C' shape, a yellow line forming a spiral, a red line forming a square, and several other lines in blue, green, orange, and purple. Some of these lines form rectangular boxes containing horizontal lines, resembling a list or a document. The overall style is modern and artistic.

Unpacking Credit: Gender and Contribution Statements in Health Library Scholarship

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TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The University of Manitoba campuses and research spaces are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate, Dene and Inuit, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

UM recognizes that the Treaties signed on these lands are a lifelong, enduring relationship, and we are dedicated to upholding their spirit and intent. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and the present. With this understanding, we commit to supporting Indigenous excellence through active Reconciliation, meaningful change, and the creation of an environment where everyone can thrive. Our collaboration with Indigenous communities is grounded in respect and reciprocity and this guides how we move forward as an institution.

OUTLINE

What are CROTs?

Research Questions

Design & Methods

Results

Broader Comparison

Recommendations

Contributor Role Ontologies and Taxonomies (CROTs)

Definition

Standard list of roles or responsibilities that individuals contribute to a research project.

Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT)

- Under development and revision for years
- Most well-known and well-used CROT
 - ANSI/NISO Standard
- 14 different roles
- Used by 40+ major publishers and granting agencies
- More common in health sciences and sciences
- Health sciences librarians who do evidence synthesis research

- Conceptualization
- Data Curation
- Formal Analysis
- Funding Acquisition
- Investigation
- Methodology
- Project Administration
- Resources
- Software
- Supervision
- Validation
- Visualization
- Writing – Original Draft
- Writing – Review & Editing

Why Contributor Statements Matter

1. Research contributions in LIS **impact** performance reviews, promotion, tenure, and your reputation
2. **Growth** in multi-authored research papers
3. Author order is **NOT** sufficient
4. Contributor statements highlight the work of **ALL** authors



An abstract graphic on the left side of the slide, featuring a dark background with various colorful lines and shapes. A prominent yellow circle with an orange squiggle inside is at the top left. Below it is a blue squiggle. To the right of the yellow circle is an orange squiggle. Further right is a blue squiggle. Below the blue squiggle is a green squiggle. At the bottom left is an orange squiggle. At the bottom right is a green squiggle. There are also some faint, larger, lighter-colored shapes in the background.

Research Questions

1. What is the frequency of contributor statements in health library and information science publications?
2. What is the frequency of each CRediT contributor roles in health library and information science publications?
3. Does gender affect the frequency of CRediT roles in health library and information science publications?

Design & Methods

Dataset

- CRediT contributor roles (**article-level**)
- Author gender(**author-level**)
- journal contributor statement policy (**journal-level**).

Health Library Journals

- Journal of Medical Library and Information Science
- Journal of Health Information and Librarianship
- Hypothesis
- Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet
- Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries
- Journal of Health Information and Libraries Australasia
- Journal of Hospital Librarianship

- Journal of the Canadian Health Library Association
- Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries
- Journal of the Medical Library Association
- Medical Reference Services Quarterly
- The Health Information Management Journal
- The Health Sciences Libraries Journal

Subset of a Larger Study

Fuhr J, Lê ML, Monnin C. Author contribution statements and gender dynamics in Library and Information Science scholarship. *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*. 2026 May 28:09610006261447557.

Monnin C, Lê ML, Fuhr J. Contributorship in Library and Information Science Scholarship: Author Contribution Statements for Librarians and Information Professionals. *Under Review*



Data Collection

Screening

- 13 health library journals
- Articles from first issues in:
 - 2023
 - 2024
 - 2025
- Covidence
 - English
 - Scholarly or research article
 - Includes a contributor statement

Journal Policies & Compliance

Compliance Audit on Contributor Statements

- Mandatory
- Optional
- No disclosure required

EDITORIAL

DOI: [dx.doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2021.1294](https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2021.1294)

CRediT for authors of articles published in the *Journal of the Medical Library Association*

Kristine M. Alpi, AHIP; Katherine G. Akers

See end of article for authors' affiliations.

To help ensure that authors of articles published in the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* (JMLA) receive appropriate recognition for their contributions and to make individual author roles more transparent to readers, JMLA articles will begin including Author Contribution statements using the Contributor Role Taxonomy.

CRedit Coding

Credit Statements

Read statements and enter names into CRedit roles

Caroline Monnin: Conceptualization, Formal Analysis, Writing-Original Draft, Writing-Review & Editing.

Mê-Linh Lê: Methodology, Investigation, Writing-Review & Editing, Project Administration.

Justin Fuhr: Supervision.

Informal Statements

Copy/paste to keep track, but no role tracking

All three authors made substantial contributions to different aspects of this work. **Caroline Monnin** played a key role in the selection and preparation of the datasets. **Mê-Linh Lê** concentrated on the literature review and methodological design, and **Justin Fuhr** took an active part in the evaluation of the findings and the writing of the conclusion. All authors have read and approved the final version of the manuscript.

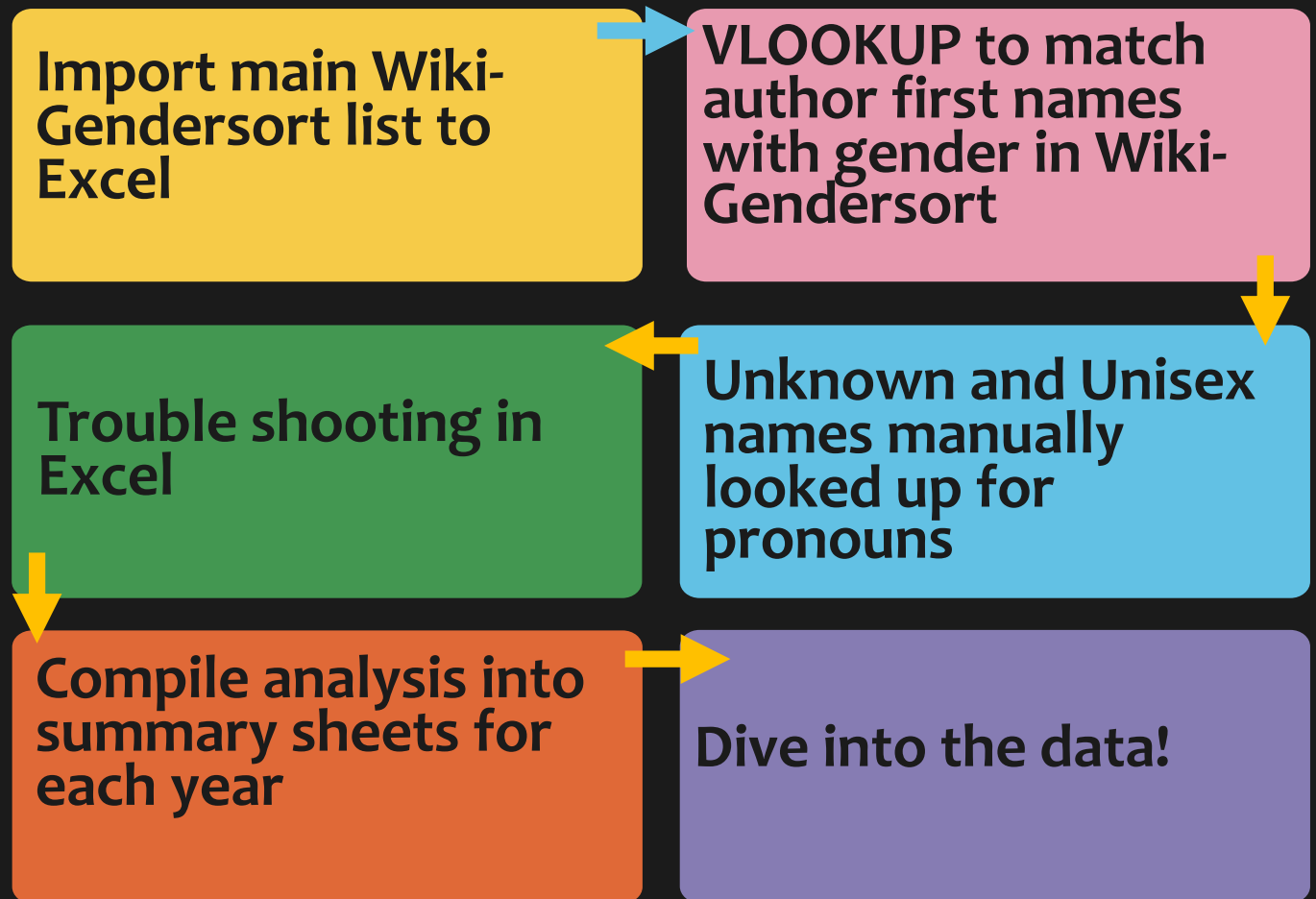


Gender Analysis

Wiki-Gendersort (Bérubé et al., 2020)

- 694,376 names
- Algorithm assigns **Male**, **Female**, **Unisex**, **Unknown**, based on 1,000 Wikipedia articles that include same name
- >75% of pages are assigned masculine, name identified as masculine; same method for feminine
- If at least one page identified as gender, but less than 75%, name is set as unisex
- If pages not identified as gender, identified as unknown

Gender Analysis



The background is a dark navy blue. It is decorated with various colorful line-art icons. On the left, there is a lightbulb with a red filament and a yellow base, surrounded by blue and red wavy lines. To its right is a purple cloud-like shape and a pink zigzag line. In the upper right, there is a blue square frame containing a green line-art figure, and a yellow square frame containing a green line-art figure. Below these are several other colorful lines and shapes in blue, red, yellow, and pink. The word "RESULTS" is written in a bold, pink, sans-serif font in the center-right area.

RESULTS

Contributor Statements in Health Journals

- 13 health sciences journals >>> 4 require a CROT (31%)
 - *Hypothesis*
 - *Journal of Medical Library and Information Science*
 - *Journal of the Medical Library Association*
 - *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*
- 1 journal had 100% compliance with its own requirements
 - *Journal of Medical Library and Information Science*
 - 82% average across four journals
- 253 relevant articles, 29% included an author contributor statement
 - 90% of articles with contributor statements were in journals that required it
 - 33% of articles with contributor statements used CRediT



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Role and Gender Dynamics in HSL Scholarship

- Women strongly represented as authors in health sciences scholarship >>> 76%
 - Compare to 45% in all LIS scholarship
- Women dominate in nearly all roles
 - Resources (81%)
 - Supervision (80%)
 - Conceptualization (76%)
- Men dominate in Funding Acquisition (60%)
- Both women and men have low representation in:
 - Software
 - Resources
 - Funding Acquisition

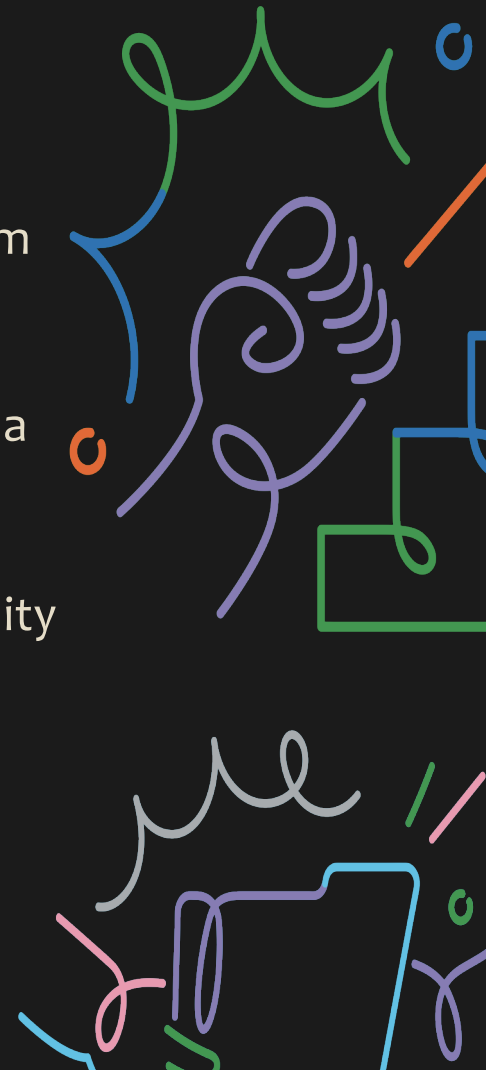




DISCUSSION

Contributor statements are valuable but inconsistently applied

- Contributor statements are mostly found in journals that require them
- With one exception, journals that require statements did not have complete compliance
- Some informal statements reflected confusion about the purpose of a contributor statement
 - "Both authors participated fully in all aspects of the research"
 - "The author conducted all parts of this study and takes responsibility for the integrity and accuracy of the data and the analysis."



Comparison to Original Study

Health Library Journals

31%

required a contributor statement

33%

of contributor statements used CRediT

82%

compliance rate in the journals requiring a contributor statement

29%

included articles had a contributor statement

All LIS Journals

6%

required a contributor statement

76%

of contributor statements used CRediT

67%

compliance rate in the journals requiring a contributor statement

6%

included articles had a contributor statement

CRedit Roles in Health Sciences Librarian Scholarship

Most common and least common roles were the same in health as in other LIS research

MOST COMMON

- Writing (Original & Review)
- Methodology
- Conceptualization

LEAST COMMON

- Software
- Funding Acquisition
- Resources



Summary

- Contributor statements can be valuable for promotion, tenure, and performance reviews, but only if they're used properly
- A CROT taxonomy like CRediT can make the invisible research labour, visible
- Health sciences librarian scholarship is ahead in utilizing contributor statements, but behind in CRediT usage in comparison to other LIS disciplines



Recommendations for Authors

Include a statement (not an ad hoc) even when the journal doesn't require it

Discuss roles throughout the project and revisit before submission

Statement should recognize **ALL** forms of labour, not just writing

Recommendations for Journals

Require contributor statements for all research articles (even solo-authored)

Make statements visible and not paywalled

Collect statements through structured forms or checklists but allow free-text for roles that cannot be captured in a taxonomy



CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

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INVESTIGATION, METHODOLOGY, WRITING –
ORIGINAL DRAFT, WRITING – REVIEW & EDITING

Mê-LINH Lê

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THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

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