Identifying Health-Related Informatics Education and Partnerships in ALA-Accredited Programs and iSchools

Tina Griffin, Rebecca Raszewski

University of Illinois at Chicago, United States

tmcg@uic.edu, raszewr1@uic.edu

ABSTRACT

Health-related informatics (i.e. Bioinformatics, Clinical Informatics) has been underexplored within American Library Association (ALA)-accredited programs and iSchools regarding interdisciplinary relationship development in their educational offerings. The first part of this study explores ALA-accredited and iSchool programs' websites to discover what partnerships exist within their health-related informatics degrees and courses.

Of the ALA-accredited and/or North American iSchool programs, 69 offer health-related informatics education. Three hundred fifty-two total educational offerings exist, the most prevalent options are courses (45%) and Master's degrees (21%). The most common health-related informatics offerings are bioinformatics (126/352) and general health informatics (107/352). ALA/iSchools are collaborating in about 36% of these offerings (130/352), while most are solo offerings (213/352).

The second part of this study is underway and explores the nature of partnerships in the offerings found above. We are surveying faculty to determine the disciplines involved in these collaborations and who initiated them. We also ask which factors influence them such as funding, staffing, and alignments with mission, values, or existing competencies. We hope to better define how these partnerships originate so that other institutions seeking involvement within health-related informatics education will have ideas of where and how to create strategic relationships.

ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS

education programs/schools; education; continuing education; informetrics, administration

AUTHOR KEYWORDS

health-related informatics; library and information science; ALA-accredited library programs; iSchools; partnerships