

## **ABSTRACT**

**Publish or Perish:**

**The Publication Patterns of Academic Librarians at UWI Mona,**

**1991-2002**

**Ann England- Peart**

This paper sought to assess the nature and volume of publication output of academic librarians at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus for the period 1991-2002, the factors affecting the publication activities of these librarians, to identify their attitudes toward the publish- or- perish syndrome and, where necessary, suggest recommendations for possibly increasing their publication output.

The survey method was used and involved the use of survey questionnaires and the observation of records. The surveyed population was 18 librarians which represented 75% of the librarian population. The

questionnaires which consisted of 34 questions were geared at eliciting information from the librarians about their professional background, research activities, support facilities provided to them and their attitudes towards the publish- or- perish syndrome.

The observation of records revealed that there were 33 librarians for the period and their aggregate publication output was 212 items. These publications span a wide spectrum of subject areas and represent tangible records of the commitment of Mona campus librarians to add to the knowledge base. The obstacles most frequently cited as militating against their publication activities were the lack of release time and research support groups. Although approximately 83 % of the librarians opined that the publish-or-perish syndrome was a reality for them at Mona, only 66% were convinced that faculty status is the way forward for them. Eighty three percent (83%) believed that all academic librarians should contribute toward the knowledge base of librarianship.

**Keywords:** Academic Librarians; Publication Patterns; University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.