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And now we get to the point where music libraries and librarians come into the frame. How can you help us to keep serendipity in research for both academics and students?

1. Where possible, purchase monographs in addition to the e-book edition. Or if the budget is especially tight, we'd prefer the physical copy. The online version is great for a quick read or to chase up a footnote, but the physical copy is something we can take to class, show the students, have put on display as a new book, read at leisure.
2. Maintain a stand of recent publications of both books and journals (if in print). I have found some great things here over the years, and it was one of the things I loved most about being a research student.
3. Set up a stand of books and journals by theme. Some examples could include exoticism, improvisation, women composers and feminist musicology, music education, chamber music.
4. If you work in library services and give advice to students on essay-writing and research techniques, help us more fully interrogate their sources not just the way they frame their introductions and cite the references.
5. When and if you read a journal article or a book, or see such literature cross the loans desk or the ILL desk and you think we may be interested in it – don't be shy to let us know!
6. If you represent the library on teaching, learning and/or research committees, advocate the essay. Even advocate the self-reflective journal. I'd invite you to help us resist the expedient, feel-good curriculum and assessment models. Help us advocate for research-led teaching.
7. If you work in a public library you can help place a higher value on research by dedicating a modest number of workstations to researchers. In library tours during O week, take the students into the stacks, the basement, the storeroom, the archives. Show them the engine rooms.
8. Although I have talked a lot about books and journal articles, keep up the momentum of purchasing those expensive databases and promote the use of primary sources to students. These Databases are gold. And they present their own exciting and frustrating issues for serendipity, but again that's a topic for another time.
9. Behind every good musicologist is a good music librarian. We need your help for our research and your advocacy in research for both our undergraduate and postgraduate students. If you have time, come to our seminar presentations, hear how we have used the library and be alert to our research needs. You may be able to help us in ways none of us realise. You too can be— and really should be be—the link and facilitator to serendipity, that most exciting and ever- fruitful part of the research journey.