# SCAMeL 2025 Speedy Startup Report

# Effects of a Popular Reading Collection on Student Wellbeing and Library Engagement

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**Was the time sufficient to carry out the plan?**

Unfortunately, no. The requirements for human subject research proved far more time-consuming than we had anticipated. We discovered after meeting with various library and medical school stakeholders, for instance, that any survey administered to students at Burnett had to be reviewed and approved by the Assistant Dean for Assessment, Evaluation, and Quality Improvement. While the Assistant Dean's input did help us refine our survey instrument, it also added new layers of revisions, emails, and meetings to the process. The medical school also recently put in place a requirement that any research coming from the med school must be approved by a Scientific Review Board (SRB) here at the med school *before* being submitted to the university's IRB. These and other complications significantly slowed our progress.

Currently, we are ready to submit our SRB proposal, which includes samples of all promotional materials we anticipate using and justifications for all aspects of the study. We have ordered the other materials required for the collection, including print books and self-checkout equipment, but since we are being required to administer a pre-survey as part of our study, we won't be able to put these materials into circulation until that survey is completed.

**Were expected outcomes met?**

Impossible to say at this juncture. Progress has been slow, but we persevere. We do still hope to be able to publish our findings and benefit our colleagues by these efforts.

**What worked well?**

The Speedy Startup grant process was indeed speedy and easy. We have received a good deal of encouragement from the administrations of both the library and the medical school. As a byproduct of this process, we did present a poster at SCC-MLA 2025 in Little Rock discussing the unexpected hurdles we've encountered (please see email attachment), and the poster won third place.

Any progress we have made, and all the support we've received from our institution, is due to this grant from SCAMeL. Physical collections have not been a priority at this very new medical library, so the grant funds, and SCAMeL's vote of support, have been instrumental in getting stakeholders on board.

**Would you have done anything differently?**

We would have done much more aggressive project planning and management early on if we had realized the many layers of approval and stakeholder buy-in we would ultimately require. We also discovered we worked more efficiently by meeting together and working on different aspects as a team, rather than splitting them up.