The Collaborative Research Library: Creative Strategies for the Advancement of Scholarship



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TOP TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS IN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Background/Aims

Massive technological changes in the area of research, knowledge production, publishing and communication are transforming the way researchers work. Spurred by technology, research is increasingly done as data-driven cooperative projects that involve teams in different locations, institutions, and even disciplines. As the pace of change accelerates, the need for new kinds of library collaborations and cooperative working arrangements becomes increasingly apparent. Information services need to be accessible on the move, in real time, and everywhere. Current trends indicate that research libraries are expanding their roles to become partners in a broader range of scholarly activities and offering new options for how scholarly work proceeds throughout the course of the research life cycle.

Methods

Research libraries are determining areas of need across institutions in relation to scholarly activities and identifying logical partners with shared values, missions and goals in meeting those needs. These partnerships will produce services that lend support to and engagement between information professionals and researchers.

Results

Collaborative approaches are being applied to new library activities both with regard to traditional operations as well as emerging functions. These transformational trends can be summarized as the use of evolving collaborative technologies and social networks; development of tools to support mobile access; an emphasis on instructional technology services and information literacy; the promotion of embedded librarians as members of research teams; reconfiguration of library space to support learning and research; digitalization of shared library collections; the assumption of leadership in scholarly communication and publication issues; and the development of services supporting data management and curation.

Conclusions

With the advent of digital technologies, libraries are proving to be successful partners and influential leaders in the research process. Emerging resources and services will continue to create new opportunities, challenges and expectations and will foster innovation and improvement in research performance and effectiveness.



- international

Management of Digital **Repositories and Archives**

 Collaboration to build a range of new kinds of partnerships and alliances, both within institutions and between institutions

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- Involvement in key local policy issues and collaboration with stakeholders to encourage institutional engagement in national and international policy issues
- Active participation in the technological development of repositories, particularly the mechanisms by which repositories make services possible
- Development of outreach and marketing strategies that assist "early adopters" of repositories in connecting with the developing repository-related service system
- Provision of guidance to assist in the development and maintenance of repository services for varied forms of content from locations inside and outside the library



- Virtual and augmented reality
- Emerging discovery tools
- Open content
- Open source software
- New social networking tools



Digitalization

- Creation of new electronic collections by digitally reformatting existing and faculty owned materials
- Collaboration with other libraries, scholarly societies and others to create new virtual collections
- Digital collection development of and Web access to special collections, including manuscripts, rare books, images, maps

e-Research Data Management

Collaboration with IT services for the development of transparent systems of grid-like libraries and library data services supporting data science and curation Formation of data-driven eResearch communities that are multidisciplinary and

 Support for and long-term maintenance of personal information management, as data sets and associated information become increasingly portable

 Development and promotion of science research agendas, capabilities and personnel within the library community

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Instructional Technology Services and Information Literacy

- Tool literacy The ability to use print and electronic resources including software and online resources
- Resource literacy The ability to understand the form, format, location and methods for accessing information resources
- Social-structural literacy Knowledge of how information is socially situated and produced. It includes understanding the scholarly publishing process
- Research literacy The ability to understand and use information technology tools to carry out research, including the use of disciplinerelated software and online resources
- Publishing literacy The ability to produce a text or multimedia report of research results

Mobile Devices Technology

- Mobile online public access catalogs (OPACS)
- Mobile applications including information about library hours and placing items on hold
- Mobile collections including ebooks, music, films, images and other multimedia
- Mobile library instruction

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- Mobile databases such as PubMed
- Library Short Message Services (SMS) notifications including due date reminders and availability of library materials
- SMS reference "text-a-librarian" services for simple reference questions



Embedded Librarianship

- Focus on partnership in the research process, not service
- Librarians in virtual spaces engaging users via web 2.0
- Librarians located outside of libraries in academic and research departments and on research teams
- Assistance with the writing of research grant proposals and with the publication of research output, text, and data
- Provision of in-house value-added information services, advice, and support for the management of research data

Library as Place

- "Learning Commons" library space reconfigured for collaborative learning, communication and research
- Provision of e-classrooms, wireless data networks, laptops and mobile devices, group study rooms, and community areas for discussion, conversation and socializing
- Opportunity for new academic collaborations such as writing studios and skills tutoring
- Library reference services plus information technology support
- 24/7 access

Scholarly Information Systems/Publication

- Advocate for institution-wide intellectual property policies that balance the rights of copyright holders and those of users and libraries
- Promotion of individual and institutional support contributing to the viability of scholarly communication channels, i.e., alternative publishing practices, institutional repositories, discipline-based e-print servers, open access
- Promotion of digital information communities and research collaborations fostering interdisciplinary communication systems to support scientific partnerships
- Collaboration with university presses and other publishers to develop new publishing models