Developing New Skills and Expertise to Support Digital Scholarship and Scholarly Communication

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Scholarly Communication

- The entire system of creating, disseminating, using and preserving scholarship, and the social, legal, economic and technological pressures on this system.
- Some SC issues:
  - Authors rights, fair use, licensing
  - Economics of scholarly publishing
  - Funding policies
  - Open access
  - New tools and software
  - Digital preservation, metadata, peer review….
“To what extent should the institutions that support the creation of scholarship and research take responsibility for its dissemination as well?”

-Karla Hahn, Association of Research Libraries

New Roles for Libraries

- Providing stewardship over locally produced scholarship and ensuring that it is accessible to an external, worldwide audience

- Working directly with faculty and research units before and during the creation and pre-publication stage of research.
New library scholarly communication initiatives

- Institutional Repositories
- Digital Publishing Services
- Education, Outreach, Advocacy
Roles for Libraries in supporting IRs:

- Build technical infrastructure and run software
- Promote the use of the repository to faculty and researchers
- Help develop and shape policies
- Develop services to populate the repository
- Libraries can lead but needs to be part of a campus-wide effort

Libraries as Publishers

- “Rapidly becoming the norm…” (ARL)
- Production support for local journals
  - new electronic journals & conversion of print back issues
- Emphasis on access and visibility, local control, preservation
- Advising and consulting
Some Journals at KU

Roles for Libraries in Education, Outreach, Advocacy

- Advise faculty in their roles as instructors and authors
- Shape campus discussions of NIH and other funding agency policies
- Maintain scholarly communication websites
- Organize workshops on copyright issues and digital scholarship
- Advocate through university governance and administrative channels
Some needs and challenges

- Technical & specialized skills
- Non-technical skills
  - Project management, communication, instruction, etc.
- Understanding of scholarly communication issues and policies
- Sustainable business and organizational models
Strategies

- Allow pilot testing and experimentation
- Build on existing structures and responsibilities
- Be inclusive
- Develop a network of practitioners
- External collaboration
- Develop new organizational units
  - Provide framework for strategic planning and support

KU Scholar Services
http://scholarservices.ku.edu

Program Areas

Startling One Digital Digital GIS & Data Government Scholarly TR Smith Map
Workspace Initiatives Services Information Communication Collection

Scholar Services provides **expertise** and **tools** to facilitate the creation and use of digital scholarship to enhance research, teaching, and learning at the University of Kansas.
Libraries have growing scholarly communication programs which are becoming core activities.

....how do we build skills, expertise, organizational and funding models to sustain these programs?

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