Expanding librarians’ roles in the research life cycle

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Data Curator’s Roles and Responsibilities: International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives

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Presentation examines the transition

Changes in research life cycle

Opportunities that managing research data introduces for librarians

“Intellectual entrepreneurship” model for empowerment

Pathways to help prepare librarians
What is our common ground?
What do you think? Use this Likert-scale

1. Strongly Disagree
2. Disagree
3. Neither agree or disagree
4. Agree
5. Strongly Agree
Faculty are happy to share their data.
My university values our faculty’s research outputs as important to the institution.
I actively empower others to share their research data and publications.
Librarians are confident and well equipped to work with faculty to find and utilize research data.
I feel overwhelmed by all this “big data” stuff.
Today we bring forth four ideas

1. Research cycles embrace interactive sharing and reuse of data
2. Managing open research data expands librarians’ roles
3. Intellectual entrepreneurship models a role to empower others
4. Partnerships prepare librarians for entrepreneurial leadership
1. Research cycles embrace interactive sharing and reuse of data
Extending a view of research

Open Science:

... the practice of science in such a way that others can collaborate and contribute, where research data, lab notes and other research process are freely available, under terms that enable reuse, redistribution and reproduction of the research and its underlying data and methods. (Foster)
Research data management [RDM]
2. Managing research data expands librarians’ roles
Why librarians & research data?

Traditional roles
• Collecting
• Curating
• Preserving
• Describing
• Discovering
• Accessing

Receptiveness for RDM
• Long term funding cycles
• Sustainable models to collect, preserve and access
• Trained info managers
• Partnerships with researchers
• Training next generation researchers

http://acrl.libguides.com/scholcomm/toolkit/datamanagement
Research Data Management challenges librarians

• Proactively design services

• Partner in knowledge-generating activities

• Share project management roles

• Be change agents that build evidence
Successful librarians will strengthen roles through:

- Assessment
- Education
- Curation
3. “Intellectual entrepreneurship” models a role to empower others.
Intellectual Entrepreneurship

• Create synergistic relationships cross disciplines
• Harness, integrate, and use intellectual energy
• Take advantage of university knowledge assets
• Empower faculty and students to become change agents

--Cherwitz and Hartelius (2007)
4. Partnerships prepare librarians for entrepreneurial leadership
Skills for entrepreneurial leadership

- Understand research life cycle
- Develop protocols for research data discovery & citation
- Simplify compliance regulations & rationale for sharing output
- Adapt archival practices for data ‘at rest’
Skills for entrepreneurial leadership
[continued]

• Assess and identify trustworthy repositories

• Propose institutional policies regarding data

• Apply data mining and analytics
ACRL: Navigating changes

• Formed Communities of Practice
• Offer educational opportunities
• Help librarians navigate change
• Develop competencies for various roles
• Seek partnerships with libraries and other organizations
Drexel Libraries gathers insights how to support research

• Realign and train staff for new expertise
• Identify how researchers conduct work:
  – Use cases, observation, group reflections help understand challenges
  – Faculty survey identifies range of awareness
• Convene self-governance forum of campus leaders
• Offer support services to improve productivity
Trends

Universities expected to:
- Demonstrate accountability
- Preserve scholarship for social good
- Enable citizens to develop intellect

Librarians will be integral to academy by:
- Leveraging knowledge assets
- Empowering community to become change agents
Suggested librarians’ next steps

• Understand research life-cycle.
• Champion intellectual entrepreneurship.
• Leverage natural convener roles to become entrepreneurial leaders.
• Partnerships of associations and libraries.
Thank you for your attention

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References


Image sources

Slide 3:
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Slides 4-10:
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Image sources [2]

Slide 4-10 [continued]

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Image sources [3]

Slide 15 [edited]:
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Slide 16:
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