Helping Faculty Embrace Fate: Collaborating to Build and Promote an IR and a Scholarly Communications Program on Campus

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**Recommended Citation**
Kennedy, Samantha D.; Robishaw, Stephen; and Rele, Shilpa, "Helping Faculty Embrace Fate: Collaborating to Build and Promote an IR and a Scholarly Communications Program on Campus" (2017). *Libraries Scholarship*. 4.
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Helping Faculty Embrace Fate
Collaborating to Build and Promote an IR and a Scholarly Communications Program on Campus

Rowan University Libraries
Office of Proposal Development

November 8, 2017
Presentation Overview

• Institutional overview
• IR considerations
• Campus Collaborations
• Faculty Focus Groups
• Solutions
• Scholarly Communications Next Steps
Rowan Statistics (Glassboro Campus)

- Enrollment: 18,400
- Faculty: 1,598
- Librarians: 12 (4 Technical Services, 8 Public Services)
- Staff in Office of Proposal Development: 1
Facts about Rowan

• R3 Carnegie Classification

• Increasing emphasis on research for T&R

• Rapid growth, student population doubled in 10 years (8k to 18k)

• 2 Medical Schools (created and acquired in last 5 years)

• Lots of library staff turnover in the past 4 years

• No OA policy
Timeline

**pre-2016**- used DSpace (Open Source) for theses and dissertations only

**2013**- New Jersey Declared Rowan a “comprehensive public research institution”

**2015**- March: Sam started as Life Sciences Librarian

  *Summer/Fall*: Purchased bepress to be used as IR

**2016**- January: Steve started as Manager of Proposal Development in the Office of Research

  *February*: IR Committee formed/IR Open, old theses/dissertations uploaded

  *June*: Selected Works purchased

  *July*: Spoke with Dean of College of Science & Math-ongoing through fall

  *August*: Started focusing on new faculty orientation (Library, Office of Research, & Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning)

  *September*: Rowan officially classified as an R3

  *October*: OA fund granted (unused); Workshops for faculty

  *November*: First faculty focus group (others in December and January 2017)

**2017**- January: Used Faculty Center connections to speak about IR at T&R meetings; worked with office of Research to connect with Seed Grants; started data discussions

  *April*: Meeting with head of Senate Research Committee

  *May*: Discussions with IRT about data storage

  *June*: Shilpa started as Scholarly Communication and Data Curation Librarian;

    White paper released to administrators about faculty research needs
Reasons to have an Institutional Repository (IR)

• Showcases for faculty scholarship, creative activities and research
  – Attract new prospective faculty/students
  – PR for the institution

• Open access
  – Fulfills NSF and NIH grant requirements
  – Raises usage of faculty works

• Other institutions should know what experts are doing at your institution
Other Reasons to have an IR

- Promote research and expertise on+off campus
- Recruiting tool for future students & collaborators
- Library as an important partner in research enterprise
- Higher citation rates
- Measure impact of scholarship via new metrics
- Social justice – global access and impact
Finding Partners around Campus

● Pre-IR
  ○ University Advancement (Corporate and Foundation Relations)
  ○ Workshops
    ■ Open Access
    ■ Publicizing Research
  ○ Used liaison status
  ○ Dean of Science and Math
    ■ ORCiD Project
    ■ Research stats

● Post-Launch
  ○ Continued previous relationships/workshops
  ○ Office of Proposal Development
  ○ Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning
  ○ Faculty Senate
  ○ Information, Resources, & Technology (IRT)
Making Partnerships Work

• Don’t say no

• Use status/abilities of others

• Create opportunities

• It’s okay to let something go

• Commit and follow through

• Defined roles and complementary competencies
Faculty Focus Groups: Need

- Conducted focus groups between November 2016 and January 2017
  - Partially designed to help promote Rowan Digital Works (institutional repository)
  - To understand research specific needs of new faculty
- Rapid, recent growth on campus
  - Unique infrastructural and HR challenges
- Partnership between Library, Office of Research, & Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning
Faculty Focus Groups: Issues Raised

● Carefully listened to faculty discussing their published and sponsored research needs.

● Faculty feedback was wide-ranging, and suggested a coordinated effort to respond to concerns

● Two specific issues rose to the top of the list:

  ○ A current lack of a universitywide, centralized hub to navigate published and sponsored research information and services.

  ○ A current lack of awareness of many of the research services that are currently offered by various, nonconnected departments on campus.
Faculty Focus Groups: Proposed Solutions

• Develop an improved institutional strategy regarding research data management

• Offer a better web presence for research apparatus

• Promote a shared vocabulary regarding institutional resources dedicated to research

• Create a Research Asset Map

• Continue promotion of Rowan Digital Works
Stages of the Research Process

Planning Stage
Ideas & Preliminary Research
- RU Libraries
- Office of Proposal Development
- Office of Corporate & Foundation Relations
- IRT

Active Stage
Scholarly Activity & Creative Works
- RU Libraries
- Media & Public Relations
- Offices of the Dean
- Human Resources

Transferring Stage
Facilitation & Promotion
- Faculty Center
- Media & Public Relations
- Offices of the Dean
- Human Resources
- RU Libraries

Start Again!
Action Steps
- Publish in Rowan Digital Works
- Prospect for Grants (Federal & State)
- Prospect for Grants (Foundations)
- Find Collaborators
- Promote your Work
Current IR Statistics (current 10/2017)

Selected Works (Author Profiles)
Profiles: 104
Works: 563
Downloads: 480

Rowan Digital Works (IR)
Works: 3,404
Downloads: 89,173
Metadata page hits: 6,248
Global Readership
Lessons Learned

• It will be slow
• There will be challenges
• Don’t stop talking about it
• Involve interested parties
• Take time to educate and inform
• Ask for help
Scholarly Communication & Data Curation Librarian

- My position new at Rowan University

- Main responsibility -
  - Conduct outreach for Rowan Digital Works
  - Raise awareness about scholarly communication and open access
Leveraging Campus Collaborations

- **Office of Research + Proposal Development**
  - Buy-in from Senior VP for Research
  - Arranged for RDW presentation to Senior VP
    - Health Sciences
  - Manager, Proposal Development promoting RDW to faculty

- **Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning**
  - Director of Faculty Center assists in promoting
    library events and promotional materials about RDW
Conducting Outreach

- Rowan Digital Works - presentation content includes:
  - Institutional Repository
    - purpose
    - platform functionalities
  - Researcher Profiles
  - + Research Data Management
Conducting Outreach

- Rowan Digital Works - presentations conducted:
  - New Faculty Orientation
  - Rohrer College of Business, Dean + Senior leadership
  - Provost + Deans Council
  - Faculty Senate Tenure and Rank Information Session
  - Digital Scholarship Center Workshops
Conducting Outreach

● Scholarly Communication - presentation content includes:
  ○ Overview of issues and challenges
  ○ Changing landscape of scholcomm
  ○ Role of libraries and open access + Examples of OA initiatives at Rowan
  ○ Significance of having such discussions at Rowan

● Scholarly Communication - presentations at:
  ○ Digital Scholarship Center, Campbell Library
What is Scholarly Communication?

The Association of Colleges and Research Libraries (ACRL) defines Scholarly Communication as “the system through which research and other scholarly writings are created, evaluated for quality, disseminated to the scholarly community, and preserved for future use.”

Technology allows us to conduct research and publish in ways that were not possible before. Libraries have taken on the role of facilitating alternate means of disseminating scholarly works and providing faculty and researchers the option to permanently archive such works in institutional repositories.

This guide is a resource to raise awareness of author rights, copyright issues, institutional repositories and considerations for open access publishing and archiving of scholarly works in this new era of digital publishing.

Source:

Resources

- ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit
- 10 Things You Should Know About Scholarly Communication
- Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)
Research Data Management LibGuide

What Is Research Data Management?

Research in science and technology fields today generates large quantities of data. This data not only needs to be processed and analyzed, it needs to be managed.

Funding agencies such as the NSF now require Data Management Plans to be submitted with grant proposals. These plans must explain how the researcher plans to manage the data generated by the research, addressing issues like security, version control, documentation, ownership and access, preservation, and sharing. If long-term preservation and sharing is desired, the researcher must choose an appropriate repository to host it.

Why is it important?

- It helps you be organized and find your files in the future
- It allows better reproducibility of research and data
- It helps you be organized about your research by documenting your processes for your own recollection, accountability, and re-use (by yourself or others)
- It allows for better version control of data
- Preserving your data is important, so planning ahead for any eventualities will not hinder your research project or sharing your data
- External funding agencies may require you to share your data and publications.

Why is well managed data important?

- It increases the impact and visibility of research
- It promotes innovation and potential reuse of data
- It leads to new collaborations between data users and creators
- It maximizes transparency and accountability
- It enables scrutiny of research findings
- It encourages improvement and validation of research methods
- It reduces cost of duplicating data collection
- It provides important resources for education and training

Why Libraries and Research Data?

Historically, libraries have served as institutions where information is collected, curated, preserved, described, discovered, and accessed. Placing these traditional library activities into a data terms illustrates why academic libraries and librarians should be involved in the management of scholarly information and research data. As libraries recognize research data as a scholarly asset that should be stored and made available for reuse, just as any publication is. This is particularly important as data has become more widely accessible in its digital form and its use for experimental validation and reuse is extending the
Next Steps

- Continue to offer information sessions about RDW and Scholarly Communication
- Offer collaborative workshops with Office of Proposal Development about open scholarship
- Implement automated workflows to increase content in RDW
- Conduct targeted outreach and identify departments not represented in RDW
- Participate in University Research Council
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