Assessing Library-Led Digital Scholarship Projects and Digital Research Operations

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45,000+ Students

2,600+ Faculty

109 Undergrad Majors & Minors

105 Masters Degrees

46 Doctoral Degrees

1ST In the Nation Subsea Engineering Master’s Program

25 Research Centers
Digital Research Commons (DRC)

FY19:

- Sponsored and facilitated 10 digital-based research projects
- Hosted 8 lecture-workshop events on a range of digital research topics and competencies
- Delivered day-long method-based colloquia
- Launched biannual, week-long Digital Scholarship Institute
- Opening office hours for consultations relating to publishing and author rights
Overview of Sponsored Projects

- 5 projects accepted in Year One of the DRC (FY18)
- 10 accepted in Year Two (FY19), 3 of which are extensions of Year One project charters
- PIs gain access to DRC staff expertise, software, tools, and project management to execute a Minimum Viable Product
- MOU and project charter established for each project
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Term</th>
<th>Code Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data analysis and manipulation</td>
<td>Librarian assistance required for tasks relating to structuring a dataset or corpus; data cleaning; experimental analysis; data visualization; text mining; or topic modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data collection</td>
<td>Librarian assistance with data collection and compilation from open and proprietary sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant application assistance</td>
<td>Expressed interest in partnering with UH Libraries on future internal (to the University) or external grant opportunities</td>
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<td>Hire non-library personnel</td>
<td>Funds to hire student employees as research assistants, web designers, project managers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incidental costs</td>
<td>Includes funding requests for local events, transcription costs, research participant incentives, permissions fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical equipment purchases</td>
<td>Includes requests such as a Dropbox account, external hard drive, audio recorder</td>
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<td>Research software</td>
<td>Requests for licensed or open source software as well as training from a librarian</td>
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<td>Travel costs</td>
<td>Includes requests for airfare, travel incidentals, conference registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web hosting</td>
<td>Requests for a website(s) or online exhibition space over the lifespan of the project, including related storage needs</td>
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# Table 2: Category Terms and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>expertise</td>
<td>Specific skills, knowledge, or experiences needed to complete a project, such as implementing controlled vocabulary workflow or building an interactive visual data project and embed on website</td>
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<tr>
<td>grant</td>
<td>Projects or topics that have future grant aspirations</td>
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<tr>
<td>logistics</td>
<td>Miscellaneous funding requests that were not considered mission critical to a project, such as travel or professional development funds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>service</td>
<td>Aspects of the research lifecycle needed to complete a project, such as data collection or data analysis and manipulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>staffing</td>
<td>Requests for personnel to complete specific parts of a project, such as employing a graduate student to build an online project exhibit</td>
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<tr>
<td>tech</td>
<td>Specific hardware, software, and technology needed to complete a project, such as data visualization tools and access to cloud storage solutions</td>
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Sponsored Project Application Analysis Results

Number of instances (91) vs. Code Term

- Data curation, analysis, and manipulation: 23 instances
- Data collection: 19 instances
- Grant application assistance: 12 instances
- Hire non-library personnel: 10 instances
- Incidental costs: 8 instances
- Physical equipment purchases: 5 instances
- Research software: 9 instances
- Travel costs: 5 instances
- Web hosting: 13 instances
Informing a Nascent Open Publishing and Hosting Program

- Migrated from independent instances of Omeka Classic to a single instance of Omeka S for DRC projects requiring exhibition space.
- Storage needs: immediate need of 20GB. With exceptions for very large files, we expect that need to grow by 20-30GB annually over the next 3 years. Plan for minimum of 1TB needed for projects by start FY22.
- Libraries’ server functionalities: Java-capable; IIIF-capable; able to host MySQL databases; query and display XML documents; support ArcGIS.
- Websites: each sponsored project assumed to have its own site; hosting for 10 sites now, plus an additional ~7 per year, with a living will to shut them off within a set time span.
UH Libraries’ Publishing Responsibilities

Established:

- ETDs and other student works
- Faculty works
- Library “owned” assets (via UH Digital Library)
- Open Educational Resources

Emerging:

- Bespoke research outputs
- Interactive websites
- Researcher-generated databases
- Digital Editions
One-Time Assessments of DRC Sponsored Projects

*Mandatory criteria for project completion (due end of FY):*

- Deposit of Minimum Viable Product data in UH IR and/or Dataverse
- Collaborative attribution among team members on every output
- Public-facing project description available at end of cycle (for display on UH Libraries website)
- Clear intellectual context for future work in the area
Mid-Range (3-5 Year) Assessment Criteria for Sponsored Projects

• Evidence of project uptake in the classroom at UH or elsewhere

• Evidence of public use or engagement: Is the project discussed in a public forum, either in person (e.g. a lecture, a local newspaper, a forum at UH or elsewhere) or online (Twitter, blogs)?

• Circulation of research product(s) among peers or in the campus community: Is the research output taken up by anyone in the field or on campus as material for further exploration?

• Has the project lead(s) created pathways for students to undertake independent work: Does the project offer ways for students (at UH and elsewhere) to undertake their own independent research using the project’s output(s) as a platform?
Establishing Program-Level Assessment Measures

- Updating merit guidelines to acknowledge digital research
- Fulfillment of new DH Certificate
Thank you!

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