The Texas A&M University Libraries Bridge Group: First Year Report

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Introduction

- History and charge of the group
- Strategies
- Resources
- Accomplishments
- Plans for coming year
Summer, 2007

- May 2007
  - Chair recruited and attended TCDL

- Summer 2007
  - First Group meeting - reviewed TDL organization
  - Discussed goals of the group
  - Write charge of the group
Charge

- “Support the developing infrastructure of the Texas A&M University’s and TDL’s Repositories”
  - Increase the awareness among library staff of the Texas A&M University institutional repository and other TDL services
  - Promote, facilitate, and support their use by the academic community at Texas A&M
Fall 2007

- Turnover of members, new members added
- Write plan for the year
- Review existing procedures
- Begin reading and discussing issues
- Begin shepherding two collections
- Jay and Kathy attend Scholarly Communication Institute
Members of Bridge Group

- Kathy Weimer, Chair
- Jay Koenig
- Susie Goodwin
- Joe Jaros
- Rob McGeachin
- Sandy Tucker
- Lisa Furubotton
Bridge Group Strategy

- Educate self on the issues of repositories and scholarly communication
- Create a plan for and conduct library wide educational initiatives
Strategy Part 1: Educate Bridge Group

- Readings
  - Scholarly Communication Institute with Faculty Assessment instrument
  - SPEC Kits 299 and 300
- Hold discussions with DI staff
- Hold discussions with UT BG chair
- Project Management workshop
- Submit individual research to local IR
Strategy Part 2: Library Wide Training

- Integrate awareness briefings into regularly held meetings
  - Training moments at subject librarian meetings
  - Presentations at library-wide meetings
  - Small group discussions at unit meetings
  - Held IR submission events (open house)

- Pre & Post survey – internal library knowledge – assist in forming training sessions
Strategy Part 3: Tools and Resources

- Library Scholarly communication website

- In development:
  - FAQ documents
  - Talking points handout
  - Ready-made slides for departmental presentations
Accomplishments, Spring 2008

- Begin holding weekly meetings
- Membership solidifies
- Briefed on Scholarly Communication Institute
- Review & revise IR submission guidelines
- Facilitate adding librarian’s papers to IR
- Attend project management training as group
- Plan and hold various internal training events
- NIH mandate discussed widely
Lessons Learned

- Select members carefully
  - Mix of people who have organizational responsibility and others with natural interest and knowledge

- Find one collection to work on
  - Follow it through the process
  - Assess procedures and documentation during each step
Lessons Learned, Continued

- Communicate about work and goals of the group throughout the organization

- Begin raising awareness in select groups across campus early
  - Meet with Library Council
  - Gather questions, lead to policy refinement
Lessons Learned, Continued

- Look for new collections
  - Opportunity for issues to come forward
  - Clarify process and procedures
Conclusions – End of First Year

- In process / Need to re-assess the distributed model for communication and marketing

- Review TDL policies
  - Recommend revisions / Educational aspect
Conclusions, continued

- Question – What if demand grows beyond our ability to serve under our current model?
  - How best utilize staff time
  - Are additional specializations required on staff?
Plans for coming year

- Continued training
  - Use post training survey to assess and plan for future training and support
  - Incorporate new initiatives into training program
Plans for coming year

- Add in Campus wide events
  - Supported by Dean and AD
    - Faculty senate, New faculty orientation
    - Hold Scholarly Communication seminar in Feb.

- Collaborate with other TDL Bridge Groups
Questions?