Libraries and the Research Enterprise:

A View from a LIS Educator/Researcher

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Overview

• Context at UNT
• Levels of collaboration
• Making the case together
Context

• Situational factors
  – LIS school and leading edge library
  – Personalities and interest in making differences
  – Personal connections
  – Reaching out for collaboration
  – No serious administrative barriers
  – Research and development oriented
• Entrepreneurial and calculated risk taking
• Agreement on the need to show value and contributions libraries can make
Levels of collaboration

• Individual
  – Between librarians and LIS educators/researchers

• Organizational
  – Between libraries and LIS programs

• Campus-wide
  – Librarians/libraries/LIS educators/LIS researchers AND others on campus
Individual collaborations

• Probably the starting point
• Finding specific projects to work on
  – Research and development interests
  – Leading edge opportunities
  – Future oriented visions
  – Identifying campus-wide opportunities for leadership
• Recognizing the value of libraries and how they must change
• Connections with non-LIS researchers
Organizational collaborations

- Based on individual relationships
- Types of LIS and Libraries collaboration
  - Formal partnerships on projects, grants
  - Participation on committees such as curriculum
  - Identifying and developing areas for collaboration
- Internships and work opportunities for LIS students
Examples

• Early and recent efforts -- agitational
  – Piloting an institutional repository
  – White paper on digital repository infrastructure
  – Discussion paper on emerging research topics for LIS researchers and librarians

• Current projects – IMLS grants
  – Data management – DataRes project
  – Curriculum development – iCAMP project
  – Metadata Records Translation project
Campus-wide

• Engagement
  – Finding ways to make a difference
  – Finding areas in which to lead

• Interdisciplinary collaborations
  – Pain points to ease
  – Expertise to contribute

• Self-serving
  – Trying to ensure a future for libraries and LIS students
  – Understanding needs and opportunities
Examples

• Engagement
  – Open access policy at UNT
  – Facilitating campus-discussion on digital scholarship

• Interdisciplinary
  – Knowledge Discovery from Digital Information Research Cluster (Libraries, Information, Engineering)
  – Digitization of mussel shell collection (Biology, Libraries, Information)
Concluding thoughts

- Leadership
- Listening
- Agility
- Openness
- Collaboration
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Projects and Collaborations

• DataRes Project:
  – http://research.library.unt.edu/datares

• iCamp Project:
  – http://icamp.unt.edu

• Knowledge Discovery from Digital Information Research Cluster
  – http://kddi.unt.edu/