

How Subject Librarians make Better IRs and how IRs make better subject Librarians

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About our Repository

- œ Hosted Solution: bepress DigitalCommons platform
- œ Goal: capture, preserve, and provide access to the research conducted at Utah State University
- œ We are now in our fourth year of existence



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At a Glance

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20 most recent additions

Feature of the Day

Competition is Not a Dirty Word

📄 22,624 papers to date

📄 676,887 full-text downloads to date

📄 466,812 downloads in the past year

Keys to success?

- ☞ “We do it for you” Model
- ☞ Making use of our subject librarians!



What it Entails for Subject Librarians

- ☞ Checking online journal pages, Sherpa Romeo and specific publishers for their copyright policies
- ☞ Contacting faculty regarding citation issues and/or requesting author pre or post prints
- ☞ Accessing full text when needed
- ☞ Forwarding copyright clearance and full text documents to Andy for student worker clearance in Digital Commons

What's in it for the subject librarians?

- ❧ Provides an excellent opportunity to build relationship with faculty
- ❧ Allows the subject librarian to learn the specific research interests of the faculty
- ❧ Improves subject librarian's ability to market the use of the IR

Concerns?

- ❧ Intimidated by making copyright decisions
- ❧ Overworked as it is!
- ❧ Some of the work required is not considered “librarianly”

Solutions? ...sort of

- ☞ Copyright Clearance Working Party
 - ☞ Meet bi-weekly for 2 hours
 - ☞ Group Setting
 - ☞ Food!

- ☞ Licensing and technological issues hampered the effectiveness of this model

New Considerations

- ❧ What do Librarians *need* to do?
- ❧ Can we delegate work to student labor without impacting the quality of copyright clearance?
- ❧ How can we eliminate the licensing and technological limitations of the previous model, while retaining the scheduled time and group setting?

New Workflow:

Subject Librarian:

- Determines copyright permissions
- Leaves instructions in clearance tracking database
- Marks each finished publication with “student”



Student:

- Finds the articles online when appropriate
- Copies and pastes abstracts
- Inserts designated comments
- QC metadata

In brief: Subject Librarians make decisions, students provide the labor

New Meeting

- ❧ Still block out two hours biweekly
- ❧ Meet briefly to discuss new faculty additions and to distribute workload
- ❧ Retreat to independent clearance work

Benefits

- ❧ The original benefits to subject librarians is amplified, while the time commitment is reduced.
- ❧ We are able to do more with less
- ❧ The benefits of the Digital Commons to the University and faculty are amplified
- ❧ Continue to build faculty buy-in!