

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

Prepared by:  
Andrew Wesolek and  
Kacy Lundstrom



# 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



Enter search terms:

Search

in this repository

[Advanced Search](#)

[Advanced Search - All Repositories](#)

Notify me via email or [RSS](#)

### Browse

[Collections](#)

[Disciplines](#)

[Authors](#)

[Journals](#)

[Conferences](#)

### Author Corner

[Author FAQ](#)

[Submit Research](#)

[ETD Information](#)

[Open Access Pilot Program](#)

[Copyright and the DigitalCommons](#)

### Links

[Contact Us](#)

[Author rights](#)

[Copyright at USU](#)

## Browse Research and Scholarship

- [Research unit, center, or department](#)
- [SelectedWorks Author Gallery](#)
- [Conferences and Workshops](#)
- [Journals and peer-reviewed series](#)
- [USU Press](#)
- [Student Works](#)



DigitalCommons@USU provides open access to scholarly works, research, reports, publications, and courses produced by Utah State University faculty, staff, students, and others. Coordinated by the Merrill-Cazier Library, USU's digital repository joins other universities worldwide in the ongoing development of new knowledge.

## At a Glance

### Top 10 Downloads

All time

### Recent Additions

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!