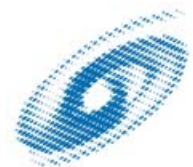


Secrets of Success: Identifying Success Factors in Institutional Repositories

**Elizabeth Yakel, Soo Young Rieh,
Karen Markey, Beth St. Jean, and
Xingxing Yao**





MIRACLE

- **Making Institutional Repositories a Collaborative Learning Environment**
 - Census
 - Interviews with users
 - User studies (search)
 - Case studies
 - <http://miracle.si.umich.edu/>
- **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) LG-06-05-0126-05) – 2005 - 2009**



Success Measures

- **Content recruitment**
- **Services**
- **Sustainability**
- **Largely internal**



Content Recruitment

- Coverage, depth, quantity
- Blythe and Chachra (2005): “They will be successful only when they achieve broad and voluntary participation by individuals in the communities they serve.”



Services

- **Search**
 - **Discovery**
 - **Promotion**
 - **Preservation**
-
- **“Without a set of services around it, it’s not a good reason to have an IR.”
(IR3)**



Sustainability

- **Integration into institutional planning**
- **Funding**
- **Relationship to other IRs on campus**
- **Interoperability**
- **Documentation / Measurement**



Impact Measures

- **Outcomes versus outputs**
- **Internal versus external indicators of success**
- **Unintended consequences**
- **Long term view**



Case Studies

- **University of Illinois – IDEALS,**
- **University of Massachusetts – ScholarWorks**
- **University of Michigan – Deep Blue**
- **University of Minnesota – Digital Conservancy**
- **Ohio State University – Knowledge Bank**



Case Studies Process

- **On-site interviews with**
 - **IR principals**
 - **Library and campus leaders**
 - **IT**
 - **Other IRs on campus**
 - **Users**
 - **Contributors**
- **Analysis of supplemental data**
- **Summer 2008**



Impact Areas

- **Content**
- **Stretching technological competence**
- **Role of the library**



Content

- **Library as publisher**
- **Dealing with more and different types of content**
- **Library as curator**
- **“The IR was seen as a way to build an infrastructure and provide stewardship.” (IR3)**



Technology

- **Building technological competence**
- **Experience with new and different technologies**
- **Digital preservation experience**



Role

- **Library as publisher**
- **Library as participant in discussions and answer about content curation throughout campus**
- **Library as function not just as bricks and mortar**
- **“Getting into the scholarly workflow.”
(IR2)**



Mission

- **Framing the IR**
- **“Changing the message from IR to author rights was key to getting faculty buy-in...I was able to get so many people who were willing to be early adopters that I couldn’t work with all of them.” (IR4)**



Use

- **From the scholars' point of view:**
 - **Citation**
 - **Ranking**
 - **Access to and promotion of materials**
 - **Preservation**
- **“I look at the uptake among the communities, not the number of documents in there.” (IR3)**



Conclusions

- **How does the IR help realize the vision of the library within the 21st century university**
- **Content, services, and sustainability of the IR may be necessary but not sufficient for impact**
- **Framing IR issues in terms of longer term library goals**



Thank-you

and

Questions