Participant Profiles

CNI Digital Scholarship Centers Workshop
Spring 2014

Name of Institution: UCLA (1)

Participant I Name: Zoe Borovsky
Participant I Email: zoe@library.ucla.edu
Participant I Title: Librarian for Digital Research and Scholarship
Participant I Role in Digital Scholarship Center: Zoe leads initiatives in the Research Commons located in the Charles E. Young Research Library.
She is the subject specialist for Digital Humanities and works closely with the Center for Digital Humanities to manage the library's partnership with the Digital Humanities Program.

Participant II Role in Digital Scholarship Center: see Miriam Posner's application.

Name and URL associated with your digital scholarship center:
The Research Commons spaces are described here
(http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/researchlibrary/space-reservation)
Research Workshops are described here: (http://www.library.ucla.edu/service/research-workshops)

If you have a mission statement or some similar description of your center, please share it here:
The Research Commons in UCLA's Charles E. Young Research library engages students, faculty, librarians, and staff in transforming library services and spaces for the 21st century. It showcases the process of digital scholarship in an open, inviting environment within the library, allowing users to draw from UCLA's deep collections and use digital methods to analyze or present their findings. The Research Commons is a technology-enriched space where groups can meet to work together formally or informally.

What kinds of spaces are included in your Digital Scholarship Center? Select all that apply:
Collaboration spaces
Service point/desk
Seminar/workshop/classroom spaces

Other (please specify)
Some of these other types of spaces are included in the renovated first floor of YRL (see the attached map. Research Commons areas are outlined in blue).
Public workstations
Conference rooms,
Exhibit spaces,
Café.

What services does your center support?:
Consultation on digital technologies
Intellectual property consultation

Workshops
Credit courses

Services offered (additional items) – select all that apply
Data services
Consultation in pedagogy/instructional technologies

What type of staff is involved in the center?:
Information technology professionals
Librarians
Faculty from academic departments
Undergraduate students

Do you have **instructional technologists** on your staff?
Yes.

Please provide a URL or describe (in a few sentences) one digital project that has had support of the center:
Each quarter the Research Commons hosts one course and one special event that focuses on digital scholarship.
One of the most successful uses of the Research Commons was a Mellon-funded Summer Institute on "Urban Humanities": a 3-week program
for 25 UCLA graduate students from a wide variety of departments across campus (http://www.urbanhumanities.ucla.edu/) The institute was designed to take advantage of all the spaces in the Research Commons: they met in the Classroom in the mornings and then held break-out sessions to work on group projects in the afternoons. The Institute culminated in an exhibition of projects in the library's main conference room.

Please provide pointers to additional materials that may be helpful in understanding the structure and work of the center (journal articles, book chapters, web pages, reports, etc.):
This conference paper describes the Research Commons as part of the Research Library Renovation Project
(http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/conferences/confsandpreconfs/2013/papers/Brunner_etal_Transformation.pdf).

As an example of the type of special events that we host in the Research Commons, see:
http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/history/reiff/~online/OnlineIndex.html.

Zoe's recent presentation at DLF provides an example of a course that was hosted in the Research Commons. The slides
(http://www.slideshare.net/sa/df01cca1882c60be2d0052abf2b464a3)and our handout (http://tinyurl.com/q3yca7h) provide a description of how we work with faculty and students in the Research Commons.

The recently established Digital Humanities program, including an undergraduate minor and a graduate certificate, is the most extensive digital scholarship initiative at UCLA (http://www.cdh.ucla.edu/instruction/dhminor.html). The affiliated faculty for that program come from 35 departments across UCLA campus; many of these are outside of the Humanities Division. For this reason, the library works with UCLA's Center for Digital

Humanities, the DH Program coordinator (Miriam Posner) and other campus groups to support UCLA's DH Program.

To coordinate these widely distributed efforts, the library participates in IDRE-HASIS (Institute for Digital Research and Education, Humanities, Arts, Architecture, Social and Information Sciences) Collaborative (https://idre.ucla.edu/people/hasis).

Would you like to include visuals in your profile? If so, please send them as attachments and submit to CNI along with this profile document.

Attached.
1) picture of the pods and
2) a floor-plan that shows the Research Commons as it relates to other renovated spaces on the first floor of YRL.

If you have **additional information** to add to this profile, please insert here:

The renovation of YRL was designed to foster digital scholarship by distributing the work across several library units (and UCLA partners) with responsibility for managing spaces and coordinating programming within those spaces. The Research Commons is the focus of much of this activity; it is managed by the Research Commons Working Group – a collaborative endeavor that Zoe leads with representatives from several library units as well as representatives from the Center for Digital Humanities.

During the workshop there was discussion of **definitions** for digital scholarship centers as compared to, or in relation to, other similar programs, such as digital humanities centers. Please share any suggestions or ideas you may have regarding this question: