Connect. Collaborate. Contribute: Context & Strategy for Designing and Building a Research Commons
Presentation Outline

Ohio State Context

• 18th Avenue Library
• Campus providers
• Data for decision making
• Budget

Strategy & Goals

• Partnership → develop a network, space, and place
• Advanced Researchers → focus on an approach at scale
• Vision → articulate success measures
About Ohio State

- Top-20 public university
- 58,000 students
- 15 Colleges
- Land grant institution
- 200 undergraduate majors and 250 master’s, doctoral, and professional degrees
- Modified RCM style budget
The Research Commons

- Opened January 2016
- Central location on campus
- Focused on “advanced researchers”
Research Lifecycle as conceptual framework underpinning our services

- Digital Union Open Support
- Proprietary Campus Support
- LibQual, White Paper & Focus Groups
Data for Decision Making

• LibQual 2009 - 2013
• Graduate student listening sessions, focus groups & partnership development meetings
• Work with marketing capstone course
• Use case development
  • digital humanities
  • technology
Budget

Ohio State University uses a budget system that is comprised of two components:

- a modified Responsibility Center Management (RCM) model, and

- the strategic investment of central funds.

The modified RCM budget model assigns substantial control over resource decisions to individual colleges and support units. The underlying premise of the University’s decentralized budget model is entrusting academic and support unit leaders with significant control over financial resources, leading to more informed decision making and better results and outcomes for the University as a whole.
Strategy & Goals

• Partnership ➔ develop a network, space, place
• Advanced Researchers ➔ focus on approach at scale
• Vision ➔ articulate success measures
Defining a Research Commons

- As a Network
- As a Space
- As a Place
2012 - Graduate Student Listening Sessions
2013 - RC Partners Advisory Committee Created
2014 - Data Mgmt., Services Librarian Hired
2014 - RC Manager & GIS Specialist Hired
2014 - Workshops Begin Autumn Semester
2014 - Work with Marketing Class
2015 - Success Measures and Assessment Techniques
2015 - Construction Begins
2015 - RC Assistant Hired & Student Staff Trained
2015 - RC IT Specialist Hired
2016 - Research Commons Opens

March 2015 - Use Cases for Technology

Digital Humanities Use Cases

IT Support Infrastructure & Desktop Support
Partners Advisory Committee

11 total members representing:

- Office of Research
- Office of Responsible Research Practices
- Copyright Resources Center
- DH Working Group
- Health Sciences Library
- Writing Center
- Undergraduate Research Office
- Office of Distance Education and eLearning
- Center for Urban and Regional Analysis
- Data Analytics Collaborative
- Graduate School
The Research Commons leverages a campus network and a physical space to provide support services at each stage of the research lifecycle through:

- Education & Training
- Consultations
- Referrals
- Showcasing Research

The Research Commons is a suite of co-located services that taken together advance researchers’ agendas, lessen pain points, promote interdisciplinary team work, showcase output, and highlight impact.
Use Case Development

Digital Arts and Humanities

In 2013-14, the Digital Arts and Humanities Working Group held four facilitated conversations about key milestones in the digital scholarship continuum: Production, Review, Access, and Preservation. The discussions were organized around a defining problem statement, examples of relevant projects at OSU, how comparable universities engage the issue, projects and standards sponsored by scholarly organizations, and related readings. At each session we asked, what needs to happen at OSU to...
Visioning

Flexible
- My Other Office
- Audience Specific
- Noisy & Quiet
- Different Uses by Time of Day
- Accommodate different working styles
- Open
- Convertible
- Timely Expertise/Access Configuration
- Multi-Purpose
- Integrated
- Many services
- User Driven

Creative
- Visual
- Fun
- Inviting
- Welcoming
- Hospitable
- Connector
- Panoramic
- Happy
- Unintended Collisions
- Intellectual Hangout
- Collaborative Space
- Sharing ideas
- Experimentation
- Original
- Seed
- New Technologies
- Connections
- Hangout (place you want to be)
- Think-tank
- Escape
- Unique Tools
- Expertise (JIT) / Expert Lack of Limitations (hours, resources)
- Like Apple, Dreamworks
- Cbus Idea Foundry
- "A Making Place"

Purposeful
- In support of the Universities dedication to world-class research
- the space will become a vital tool in the recruitment of world-class faculty, students, and research.
- Making Life Easier
- Structure (scheduled time/leased time)
- Leverage expertise to share ideas/comments
- Connect
- Async & sync
- Collaboration
- Clarity of space purpose
- Practical Reasons for space setup
- Having Needed Tools

Technology Rich
- Technology Enabled
- Specialized Software
- Showcase Research
- Accessible Real-time connective technology
- Project Continuity (feel like you can leave your project and return the next day)
- Specific technology
- Ability to try new tech.
- Managing diverse tech.
- Security of ideas
- Mobility of tech.
- BOD (bring your own device)
- Tech. not accessible by everyone (3d printing, modeling, etc)
- Showroom of new tech?
- Share screen
- Guided tech.
- Partnership with software companies

Future Oriented
- Innovation
- Inspirational
- Intense
- Active
- Interdisciplinary
- Clearly different than rest of library
- Unexpected
- Accessible/welcoming to all research
- Unique service/support
- (World class research is difficult, let us make it easier)
- Depth of expertise/consulting
- Partnerships with experts, universities, workplace, etc in one space
1) Concept: “Traffic in Physical and Virtual Spaces”

2) Concept: “Creating a User Community” (or “Repeat Customers”)

3) Concept: “Partnership (RC/experts) and Collaboration (RC/users and users/users)”

4) Concept: “Breaking the Silos”

5) Concept: “Breaking the Mold”

6) Concept: “A Valued Resource” (or “Recruiting”)

7) Concept: “Return on Investment”
1) Traffic in Physical and Virtual Spaces

• Event Demographics (2014-present)
1) Traffic in Physical and Virtual Spaces
2) Creating a User Community (or “Repeat Customers”)

- Virtual User Community
- Spring Event Attendance
- From Workshop to Consultation
2) Creating a User Community (or “Repeat Customers”)

Awesome brainstorm this morning with @ODEEatOSU Distance Education colleagues in the redonkulous new @OSUrescommons
3) Partnership and Collaboration

• Writing Groups

• Office Hours

• Workshop Development
3) Partnership and Collaboration

“Dancing in the Streets” – go.osu.edu/carnival
3) Partnership and Collaboration

ACRL webcast on “Engaging the Digital Humanities” – Mar. 23, 2016
4) Breaking the Silos

“GIS for the Rest of Us” Workshop – July 30, 2015
4) Breaking the Silos

• 60 OSU faculty, staff, postdocs, and grad students
  • Nine Colleges represented:
    - Arts & Sciences
    - Engineering
    - Business
    - Food, Ag. & Env. Science
    - Public Affairs
    - Medicine
    - Nursing
    - Public Health
    - Social Work

• Community participants
  • City of Columbus, Mid-Ohio Foodbank, National Audobon Society, United Way of Central Ohio
4) Breaking the Silos

STEAM Exchange – Jan. 21, 2016
5) Breaking the Mold

“As a graduate student who has been here for almost four years, this is the first time I feel as though there's a space (a well-lit, comfortable, accessible, and technology-updated space) for graduate research use.”

- Feedback from English graduate student (Feb. 22, 2016)
6) A Valued Resource (or “Recruiting”) 

Cookies in the Commons 

Stop in. Take a tour. Explore how we can help. 

Tuesday, March 22, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
7) Return on Investment

• Thinking long term...

• Moving from “success measures” to a formalized assessment plan & planning document