“I have my largest amount of data on grass genomes and I integrated it into a database when I lived in the Philippines.

“Then I left and I couldn't update the data on the fly. So entered into a collaboration with statisticians and computer programmers who entered it in PERL.

“I still feel a weakness in my training because I am dependent on them.”
“I want the essays I have written over the years to be consolidated in one place to be published...

“...but I cannot find them all.”
“I would be interested in tools that can scan lab notebooks and assign metadata for retrieval.”
"I searched for a book on Amazon and couldn't find it so it must not exist."
“I would like to tear apart the current publishing system so everyone owned their own IP.”
“[I would like a service] so I can see what others are doing without sharing my information.”
“I used to use the library to obtain all my research information, but now I use Google Scholar.”
“It would be helpful to have a data warehouse.”

“Incentives are low to share data and there is no real means of tracking data in my field. There is no central data repository.”

“Researchers such as myself refuse to submit our original data, for fear it will be compromised, mis-cited and misquoted.”

“We have consolidated social sciences survey research into an institute, which provides data archiving among physically disparate areas.”
“Journals are like radio stations - you pick them according to your taste.”
"I make working papers - which are under review - publicly available.

"When the paper is accepted, I take down that link and then, after the article is published, I release the new link.

"This process is very tedious and I would love a tool that migrates the paper according to its published status."
“On my wish list is a program that would scan my email and identify the importance of the message based on my preferences.

“I could then eliminate the messages that were lower priority without reading them.”
Research Information Management

Studying researchers “in the wild”
Evolution of the Research Information Management Program

- Incubation of an idea by OCLC Research staff
- Input at from RLG Partners at 2008 RLG Annual Meeting

- RIM interest group
- Advisory group
- Four working groups
- Update and recalibration at 2009 Annual Meeting
Research Information Universe

- research assessment
- tools & content
- institution
- discipline
- sub-discipline
- researcher
- support for research workflows
- scholarly information practices
- support for the research process
Overlapping environments

Research Funders
- Mission
- Record of publications
- Open Access mandate

Linked repositories

Domain
- Academic freedom

Output

Institution
- Mission
- Record of publications
- Open Access mandate

Reputational social networks

Assessment
- National economic performance
- National research profile

Researcher ME

- Share of assessment-based funding
- League table ranking
- Tenure
- Internal assessment
convergence in scholarly practices

Scholarly Information Practices in the Online Environment Themes from the Literature and Implications for Library Service Development

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A publication of OCLC Research

When we shift our attention from “save libraries” to “save scholarship,”

the imperative changes from “preserve the current institutions”

to “do whatever works.”
Research Assessment

Libraries should:

• Claim their territory.
• Know disciplinary norms
• Manage data at scale
• Operate repositories efficiently
• Provide bibliometrics
• Provide evidence

“Libraries should claim their territory”

Support for Research Workflows

a joint project with the UK’s Research Information Network

“discover the information-related support services researchers use throughout the life-cycle of their work”
“It’s the Wild West Out There”

Zotero
The web now has a wrangler.

Mendeley
Research Networks Beta 0.9

arXiv.org
Organize, share and discover research papers

TeraGrid

WEB OF SCIENCE
SM
ACCESS POWERFUL CITED REFERENCE SEARCHING AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONTENT
Preliminary synthesis:

- Researchers value efficient, easy-to-use services.
- Electronic journals and Google dominate the landscape in the research process.
- No one can manage their documents and data sets.
- Researchers use personal relationships to choose collaborators.
- Researchers do not use libraries.
Methodology:

- Qualitative
- Exploratory
- Comparative, international view
- Case studies
- Structured interviews
- Select 8 exemplary institutions (4 each in US and UK)
- Wide mix of disciplines
- Entrée and interviews with deans, provosts, grant and research administrators, etc.
Collect

- enable collaborative management of documents and analysis of data
- store, curate, and preserve researchers’ data sets
- improve their information retrieval and management skills
Read and Write

• help manage citations

• help find the most effective manner and vehicle in which to publish

• provide advice in protecting intellectual property rights

• support tenure and promotion, such as a service that tracks how often a researcher’s articles have been cited, where and by whom

• manage and preserve preprints, publications, and postprints
Collaborate

• help investigators locate potential collaborators and make their own expertise known

• support tenure and promotion, such as a service that tracks how often a researcher’s articles have been cited, where and by whom

• inform researchers how they rate within their field (ie their indexes according to various measures based on citation analysis)
Money

• alert researchers to new and forthcoming grant opportunities from a range of funding bodies in their field

• identify research of potential commercial value to the university and start the processes to commercialize where appropriate
Example from a recent on-campus interview

- Q: Do you use any tools or services to analyze large text or data aggregations? What additional support would be desirable?

- A: “I have a programmer to access sequence data that is too complicated to share. So we just send the results.

“The programmers have the answers but don't know the questions to ask. I have the questions but don't know the answers. There are only a handful of people that can do both.”
“Forget about it”

- Services to learn about grants and funding
- Services about where to publish
- Services to manage IP and exploit commercial value of research
- Instruction on how to use information services
- Expertise profiling
- Services to analyze large text and data files
- Citation managers
- Services to manage pre-prints, post-prints and publications
Lingering Questions

- Appropriate use of resources?
- Utility provider?
- Metadata solutions?
- Data management and data curation?
- Distributed, international subject repositories?
Coda: Data Curation

- Role of libraries in data curation
- Discipline-specific practices and needs
- “The Fourth Paradigm”
- Archival management of large data sets
Resources:

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• Support for Research Workflows project:
  • http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/default.htm

• OCLC Research reports:
  • http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/default.htm

• The Research Information Network (RIN)
  • http://www.rin.ac.uk/

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