Office of Research Annual Report FY16

I. Unit Narrative

1. Major activities and accomplishments of the unit (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):

Since its establishment in early 2015 as part of the Library Administrative restructuring, the Office of Research focused in 2015 on hiring professional staff, establishing new programs, and developing research-related partnerships within the Library, on campus, and regionally/nationally. Noteworthy 2015-16 accomplishments across the Office of Research include the following:

- Two new programs were initiated in 2015-16, including Researcher Information Systems and Scholarly Communications and Publishing.

- The Scholarly Commons established the foundation for a graduate fellowship program which will be launched in 2017. Focus areas could include, but will not be limited to digital humanities and digital scholarship, GIS, and research data visualization.

- The Research Data Service (RDS) launched the Illinois Data Bank (IDB) research data repository in spring 2016, expanded services related to Data Management Plan reviews, and contributed substantially with NCSA and Tech Services to the release of a campus Active Data Storage service.

- Research Services organized the 3rd annual Library Research Showcase (Nov. 2015), provided one-on-one consultations for 73 Library faculty and academic professionals in support of individual research activities, provided 4 workshops, sponsored 5 writing groups, and facilitated 8 webinars, all focusing on topics related to research methods and identifying publishing venues for LIS research.

- Researcher Information Systems successfully implemented the Illinois Research Connections researcher profile system campus-wide, using the Elsevier Pure service, in spring 2016.

- Harriett Green, the PI of the successful IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant— "Digging Deeper, Reaching Further, "and Eleanor Dickson, Visiting Digital Humanities Specialist, are well into the first year of a three-year-nation-wide project to develop and share training and instruction for librarians in text analysis and data mining through the HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC), in partnership with four academic libraries. These modules are being vetted by the five participant institutions and will be taught locally at each institution this fall.

- University Library faculty and academic professionals successfully attracted over $1 million in grant and sponsored research funding to support both individual and institutional research and other activities core to the Library's mission.

2. Major challenges faced by the unit during that period:

The biggest challenges for the Office of Research during FY16 included conducting searches for staff and faculty, initiating Scholarly Communications and Publishing services and infrastructure; and architecting and developing the RDS Illinois Data Bank Repository, sustaining Scholarly Commons programs and growing in new directions through staff transitions, building awareness of new and existing services (e.g., Illinois Research Connections) through a coordinated communication within the Library and with campus units (Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Graduate College, NCSA, Tech Services, colleges and research institutes.)

3. Significant changes to unit operations, personnel, service profile or program:

Significant FY16 changes in the Office of Research included the startup of the Scholarly Communications and Publishing program, and appointment of a total of ten individuals—seven were appointed as a result of searches, one visiting faculty position was made permanent (Dan Tracy, LIS and Research Services), and two faculty in the Scholarly Commons re-shaped their responsibilities, resulting in the appointment of a Head (Karen Hogenboom), and the Digital Scholarship Liaison and Instruction Librarian (Merinda Hensley).
The current staffing complement is listed below, with positions appointed in FY16 highlighted in "blue" and searches under way highlighted in "red:"

- Researcher Information Systems Manager, Mark Zulauf, Coordinator for Researcher Information Systems, July 2016…
- Repository Services Coordinator, Helenmary Sheridan appointed June 2016.
- Head, Scholarly Commons (K. Hogenboom appointed October, 2015)
    - Admin support (Ac. Hrly.)
    - Digital Scholarship Liaison and Instruction Librarian, Merinda Hensley, transitioned from co-Coordinator of the Scholarly Commons and Instructional Services Librarian to this new role in late 2015.
    - Numeric & Spatial Data Svcs. Librarian (distributed responsibilities)
        - GIS Specialist: James Whitacre,2014
    - Vis. Digital Humanities Specialist : Eleanor Dickson AP, June, 2015; reports to H. Green
    - HTRC Postdoc / Scholarly commons w/GSLIS, S. Bhattacharyya; August 2013
- Research Data Service -Director, Heidi. Imker—May 2014
    - Curators: Elise Dunham, Elizabeth Wickes; May 2015
    - Research Programmer: Colleen Fallaw; April 2015
    - Postdoc (Qian Zhang, August 2015)
- Scholarly Comm. & Publishing
    - Head of Scholarly Communications & Publishing -Aaron McCollough, August 2015
    - Copyright Librarian, Sara Benson appointed August 2016
    - Vis. Digital publishing specialist Janet Schwatscheno appointed June 2016.
    - Research programmer Chris Maden appointed December 2015.
- LIS & Research Services Dan Tracy's appointment made permanent tenure stream in June 2016.

4. Ways in which the unit and/or its members contributed to Library-wide programs:

- *Grants and sponsored research:* The University Library continues to push the envelope of research and innovation through both individual initiatives and strong partnerships with other campus units, including GSLIS and LAS. In 2015-16 the University Library garnered over $1.2 million in external funding to support research and other types of innovative projects. A total of 22 external proposals were submitted; 11 were awarded, for a success rate of 50%, which is impressive by campus standards. Six multi-year proposals carried over from 2014-15, making for a total of 17 current external grant awards for the Library. These funds were awarded to individuals as well as to groups, both internal to the Library, and Library faculty or academic professionals collaborating with other units (including GSLIS, African Studies, and the Title VI area studies centers).   This work is coordinated between Beth Namachchivaya and Kathie Veach, Research Manager in BHRSC. Our work takes place at the intersection of these successful ideas and the support awarded for individuals and groups to transform them into reality—promoting idea generation and proposal writing, and providing support for stewarding the awards into successful outcomes

- Digital Scholarship services increased: The Scholarly Commons was the in-person research destination for over 2,500 researchers in the past year, up over 400 visits from FY15. The Scholarly Commons provided 1,055 reference interactions consultations, 175 which were at READ scale 5 or 6 in complexity. During the past year the depth and duration of user interactions in the Scholarly Commons has increased, doubling in both the number of complex interactions and the number of questions that required more than 30 minutes of consultation.
- The Savvy Researcher workshop series offered 66 workshops alone on Scholarly Commons services to 618 participants.
- GIS Specialist James Whitacre co-chaired the planning for the campus GIS Day 2015, along with sponsorship from the Scholarly Commons.
- The Scholarly Commons sponsored several additional campus events, including the Graduate College Image of Research competition, a campus Computational Social Sciences Workshop (with i-CHASS), a campus talk by Ariel Waldman, visits from ARL Program Officer Rikk Mulligan, HathiTrust Executive Director Mike Furlough, and participation in the Faculty Technology Summit, the New Faculty Orientation Resource Fair, and the Graduate College new student welcome reception.
- Research Services provided 74 one-on-one consultations (doubled since FY14) with Library faculty regarding their research, and has sustained five writing groups with a total of 26 members from the Library faculty and Academic Professionals.
- Research Services increased the *Recognizing Excellence in the Library* blog coverage of Library faculty and Academic Professional research activities, professional recognitions and awards with support from a graduate student, who also supported the Library Research Showcase and other related activities.

- Research Services organized numerous opportunities for Library faculty and Academic Professionals to learn and enhance their knowledge and use of research methods. Highlights included:
    - Writing Your Research for Diverse Audiences. Led by Dan Tracy with Maria Gillombardo from the OVCR on July 23, 2015. 9 participants.

- Reprised twice by Dan Tracy for smaller groups on November 11, 2015 and January 8, 2016. 7 participants.
- Through Savvy Researcher workshops, and presentations across campus, the Research Data Service provided over 40 workshops and group presentations, reaching over 500 Illinois faculty, staff, and students.

5. Progress made on Unit Annual Goals for FY16 (as enumerated in the FY15 Unit Annual Report):

All three of the FY16 goals articulated by the Office of Research focused on communication and outreach.
- Develop and implement a communications plan for audiences such as faculty, postdoc's, graduate students and undergraduate students who are focusing on research activities that are supported not only by the Office of Research, but across the Library, through services, collections, and subject and functional expertise. Faculty and staff in the Office of Research are working from a straightforward rubric titled "Ten things a savvy researcher knows about doing research." Collaboration with subject specialists as well as units with similar mission is vital to this communication work. Specific accomplishments included:
    - Office of Research faculty and staff built upon the "ten things" rubric, in presentations to student and faculty audiences throughout the year.
    - The Office of Research revised and expanded its web presence.
- As part of the overall Office of Research communication plan, collaborate with the AUL for User Services and Library Advancement on the Library Tip of the Month email messages to new faculty. (All)
    - AULs for User Services and Research, and Library Advancement shaped the content of 10 monthly emails introducing new faculty to Library services and resources that support research and teaching.
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- Extend Office of Research outreach activities to partner with campus units in innovative ways, including IPRH, the OVCR and campus research institutes, NCSA, Tech Services (campus) and CITL. Specific activities that contributed to this goal include:
    - Campus Research IT: RDS and the Scholarly Commons participated in the extensive planning for the new campus Research IT strategic framework.
    - Partnership w/CITL: The Scholarly Commons partnered with CITL on three projects: a digital humanities guide; a DH hackathon, and co-hosted a conversation about library services with the Scholarly Commons, Teaching Academy directors, and CITL Faculty Fellows.
    - Open Access Policy: Although in startup mode, Aaron McCollough, Head of Scholarly Communications and Publishing, developed and implemented an outreach program that included creating a policy waiver request system, a libguide, campus massmail for researchers, and presentations to library divisions, faculty, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
    - Open Licensing: Aaron McCollough led a task force that made a set of policy recommendations for using Creative Commons licenses with "library-authored_ content (e.g., committee reports, web content, etc.)
    - Programming with IPRH: With leadership from Harriett Green, English and Digital Humanities Librarian, Harriett and Eleanor Dickson provided digital humanities and text analysis and data mining seminars as part of the IPRH program.

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- o HathiTrust Research Center outreach: Harriett Green, Eleanor Dickson, Tim Cole, and Beth Namachchivaya

6. Unit Annual Goals for FY17. When appropriate, goals should be mapped to *the*
Framework for Strategic Action, 2015-2018
(http://www.library.illinois.edu/planning/ADOPTEDFramework_for_Strategic_Action.pdf).
That is, any alignment with strategic directions or enduring principles should be noted, but not all goals need to be tied to the *Framework*.

The following goals are mapped directly to the Framework for Strategic Action, and they will be
- Systematize procedures for developing cross-functional library teams to **support campus research groups**, especially those that are multi- or inter-disciplinary, inter-institutional, and/or international. Develop charge for working group that targets recommendations for units that will be initially involved, including RDS, Scholarly Commons, Grainger Engineering Library.
- Develop and implement an information architecture for **faculty profile sharing**. Specific goals for FY 17 are included here since the lead role for RIS was vacant from May – July 2016:
  - o Complete the remediation of the Illinois Research Connections researcher profiles database to include Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences scholars.
  - o Expand content, including other bibliographic data sources, patents, press clippings, etc.
  - o Re-brand the IRC database to "Experts at Illinois," working in concert with the OVCR.
  - o Expand training and outreach efforts to staff, faculty and other researchers on campus.
  - o Organize and lead a campus group to launch an institutional implementation of ORCID campus-wide.
- Expand **research data services** and accompanying education initiatives, focusing on data curation, use, and dissemination.
- Develop a systematic program of services and tools that supports the **full life cycle of scholarly communications**.
- Support student and faculty access to and experimentation with **new and innovative tools of scholarship**
- Foster a culture of collective and individual research and development that investigates and disseminates innovative practices.
  - o Revise existing library sponsored research policies and initiate more robust support and mentoring for faculty and academic professionals to garner grants and external support for research and new programs and services.

II. Statistical Profile

1.   **Facilities**

- o N/A

2.   Personnel

- List, by name, all faculty, Academic Professionals, civil service staff, and Graduate Assistants assigned to the unit in FY16.
- Researcher Information Systems Manager, Mark Zulauf, Coordinator for Researcher Information Systems, July 2016..
- Repository Services Coordinator, Helenmary Sheridan appointed June 2016.
- Head, Scholarly Commons (K. Hogenboom appointed October, 2015)
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    - Copyright Librarian, Sara Benson appointed August 2016
    - Vis. Digital publishing specialist Janet Schwatscheno appointed June 2016.
    - Research programmer Chris Maden appointed December 2015.
- LIS & Research Services Dan Tracy's appointment made permanent tenure stream in June 2016.
- Specify the amount of the unit's FY16 Student Assistant wage budget and Student Assistant FTE. ***Not Applicable***

3.   User Services

Most of the following data has been generated by the Office of User Services and will be available at G:\StatsForAnnualReport2015.

- Scholarly Commons Gate Count: 2,576 (extrapolated from Sweeps Week) –represents an increase of 400 users over FY15
- Circulation: not applicable
- Reference interactions: 1283 (Scholarly Commons, RDS, Scholarly Communications & publishing, and Research Services—a high percentage of these interactions are READ scale 5 & 6, transactions lasting 30 minutes or longer.)
- Presentations (from the Instructional Statistics database):
    - 66: includes Savvy Researcher workshops delivered in Scholarly Commons, reaching 618 people
    - 40: by RDS, reaching > 500 people

4.   **Other statistics (optional) Not *Applicable***

III   Appendices (optional) Not Applicable