

# OUT OF THE LIBRARY: INTEGRATING INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS INTO COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

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# Overview of Presentation



- Introductions
- Changing Role of the Librarian
- Evolution of Collaborative Research
- How Information Professionals Fit into the Research Lifecycle
- Recommendations for Adoption
- Questions
- Final Thoughts

# Introductions



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# Evolution of Collaborative Research

Or

## “Why you have a problem”

- Collaboration increasing
- At FHCRC in Public Health Sciences:
  - ▣ 515 out of 733 active grants are multi-institutional (>70%)
  - ▣ 79 of these were greater than \$250k
- Consequences for how research is done:
  - ▣ Speed of research increasing
  - ▣ More data
  - ▣ More information
  - ▣ More publications
  - ▣ More to manage

# Collaboration Problems as Information Problems



- Unsolvable problems of doing science?
  - ▣ Knowledge management
  - ▣ Collaboration development
  - ▣ Information management
  - ▣ Data set curation, annotation and archiving
- IPs offer a solution

# New Roles

Skills in analysis, research, needs assessment, objective data gathering, information retrieval, scholarly communication, digitization, instruction, business intelligence

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Domain knowledge in life sciences, health sciences, computational biology

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Roles as corporate librarian, science librarian, information specialist, biomedical research librarian, informaticist

# Knowledge Communities Professional



- Launch collaborative online “meetings space”
- Understand how clients consume information and make decisions about “best” content for each group of users
- Act as information manager and people connector
- Make connections between knowledge needs, sources, and gaps

# Information Specialist



- Classify and publish corporation content
- Apply accurate and consistent index terms for the automated content classification system
- Maintain existing corporate taxonomy
- Provide instruction on using taxonomy to staff

# Biomedical Research Librarian



- Develop and implement a plan to address the needs of researchers through instruction, consultation, and web-based information access tools
- Develop and promote new and innovative information products and services to the assigned programs and departments
- Cultivate relationships with faculty and programs and identify opportunities for partnering with these groups in order to meet their information needs
- Identify appropriate collection development needs of assigned programs and departments and be an advocate for those needs within the library

# Librarian



- Recommend “best usage practices” for collaborative tools to foster scientific interchange
- Advise on strategies to deal with volume and complexity of information
- Create virtual index of most useful scientific reference resources for scientists focused on global infectious diseases and host-pathogen interactions
- Advise on sustainable information infrastructure that would bridge the culture and demonstrate value for ongoing librarianship
- Work with patent attorneys to support intellectual property protection, including patents and related scientific literature

# Library Fellow



- Design and complete research projects to further the roles of health sciences librarians and information specialists in translational research and health informatics ventures
- Seek out collaborative grant opportunities, leveraging strengths brought by information specialist to the health informatics grants portfolio
- Incorporate appropriate tools and resources into translational research efforts
- Participate in testing and evaluation of locally-developed tools
- Bridge expertise between the libraries and schools, and engage the broader translational research community

# Data Librarian

- Define, refine and improve processes for data management and archiving
- Develop comprehensive meta-data catalogue for health data
- Enable and enforce standardized archiving including completeness of meta-data and data documentation
- Inform internal data users about data updates via email, blog, wikis or other means
- Maintain and expand a catalogue of all known existing health-related data sets
- Develop relationships with Program Officers, Project Officers, Data Analysts, faculty and researchers to capture and document new data and data needs
- Support researchers in identifying and locating data sets

# How IPs Fit into the Research Lifecycle





- Search strategy
- Familiarity with databases & directories
- Data mining for funding opportunities
- Competitive intelligence
- Network/connections between OSR and project
- Manage streams of information in multiple formats



- Bibliography and literature search for application
- IACUC literature search requirements
- Description of information and library resources available to the project staff
- Information management systems planning
- Coordination of contributions

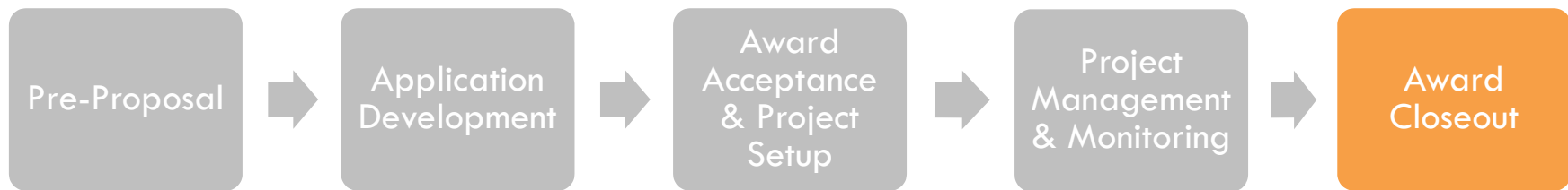


- Implement information management plan
- Portal development

*A well-structured information plan developed when applying for grants helps you move quickly when the award comes*



- Collaboration development
- Portal support
- Continued competitive intelligence
- Knowledge management
- Publication support
- Mediation
- Reporting support



- Final reporting
- Compliance with funding agency policies for publication
- Retention of records
- Disposition of working documents or spaces

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# Making the Case



- Save money
- Save time
- Reduce frustration
- Improve quality of research by improving quality of resources used
- Keep ahead of competition
- Support the ride on the “bleeding edge”

# Imagine the Possibilities...



- IPs as project managers
- % FTE from the library
- Split FTE with another grant
- Talk to institutional leadership about information management as shared or core service
- Interns and fellows
- Write an IP into your next grant

# Questions?



# Final Thoughts



Scientists want to do science, not read emails or search for documents.

Sophisticated information management is becoming the norm... any large, collaborative grant without an information management plan will be at a disadvantage.

# Bibliography



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# More information...

- Updated slides can be found at:

[www.collaborativelibrarians.org](http://www.collaborativelibrarians.org)