E-Research Implementation Committee Meeting
308 Main Library
July 3, 2013, 3:00 pm

Attending: Sarah Williams (chair), Sarah Shreeves, Christie Wiley, Bethany Anderson, Susan Braxton, Karen Hogenboom (recorder)

Visitor: Larry Jackson (GSLIS)

Research Data Services Interest Group meeting
Karen and Bethany will organize this meeting. We are planning on three speakers and about an hour and a half with lots of time for discussion and questions.

EZID plans at the University of Illinois

Susan reported that EZID is an access point to Datacite, which generates DOIs for data sets. We could subscribe to EZID without joining Datacite, and if we did join Datacite without subscribing to EZID we would need to create a “front end” that is provided with EZID and help other institutions to mint DOIs. Susan tried to use end of year funds to subscribe for the Prairie Research Institute as a pilot project, but the vendor wasn’t able to set up the subscription before the end of the fiscal year. The vendor has offered us a free pilot, but we would need to ensure that the DOI prefix that is assigned to UIUC would remain the UIUC prefix if we continue to subscribe or if we join Datacite. It is also unclear how EZID deals with datasets that are created over a period of years, since the date field on the registration form allows for only a single year. Susan would like a subgroup of this committee to formulate best practices for assigning DOIs. The service would have to be mediated by librarians, because where users have registered their DOIs directly they are often not maintained. If researchers deposit their data into IDEALS, the IDEALS handle could be the URL given to EZID, helping with the maintenance problem created when DOIs are assigned to data that might move among websites (IDEALS handles and DOIs are both handles, but are not the same thing). We would need a group of librarians who are trained to register DOIs for users, since one person cannot mediate all the potential requests for this service, so the pilot would need to provide access to the EZID subscription for a small group of librarians. There is a feature in EZID that works for archival material as well: it would generate an identifier but it may not be permanent.

Sarah Shreeves and Susan will work on best practices, with Mary Schlembach and Bill Mischo if they are available. If Mary and Bill can’t do this, Sarah Williams will issue a call for an additional person for this working group.

OSTP memo and responses from academic and publishing communities (information)
The Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House (OSTP) has issued a memo directing federal agencies to make the results of federally funded research openly available within one year, but will not provide funding for agencies to comply with this mandate (http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/ostp_public_access_memo_2013.pdf).

The publishing community has responded with a proposal, CHORUS, that outlines a framework for public access to publications from federally funded research. Academic institutions and libraries are skeptical about this plan, seeing that it will most likely be funded by increased subscription costs for journal packages. ARL and other academic organizations have proposed an alternate plan, SHARE, which would provide federated access to institutional repositories and where an institutional repository in each state would take deposits from institutions that do not have a repository. Sarah Shreeves stated that institutional repositories are not ready to take on this role. A third possibility is that the government will create a repository similar to Pub Med, though this repository would be bigger and broader in scope and therefore very expensive to establish and run.

Chancellor Wise has written a letter to the Association of Public Land Grant Universities discussing the options and expressing a preference for SHARE, though implementation would be complicated and expensive. An inter-agency committee will be looking at these options and deciding how to proceed.