eResearch Implementation Committee meeting

10/23/2013

Attendees: Sarah Williams (chair), Laila Hussein, Christie Wiley, Bethany Anderson, Susan Braxton, Karen Hogenboom, Sarah Shreeves, Harriett Green, Peg Burnette (recorder),

Agenda

- Finalize plans for funding request to data conferences in January – June 2014

The conference listing document now includes estimated costs for three conferences that will take place in fy14. It was suggested that we request funding for IASSIST and RDAP for two attendees each. Anyone intended to submit proposals for either of those conferences may be eligible for other funding sources.

Six people expressed interest in attending IDCC. It was agreed that two or three people should be selected to request funding support. Areas that were identified as key representation include preservation, the sciences and scholarly commons. It was suggested that Kyle Rimkus, Sarah Williams and Sarah Shreeves could represent those areas respectively.

- Discuss tracking research data activities/questions
  - Document in committee’s Box folder lists the recommended research data metrics to report to campus and metrics for the library to collect internally (https://uofi.box.com/s/30gub71xycevy1oi9idd)
  - Attached document includes responses (from RDAP listserv and ARL Data Sharing Google Group) on how other libraries are tracking data questions/requests

Data metrics reported to campus:

It was suggested that Sue Searing and Jen-chien Yu should be invited to one of the November meetings to discuss metrics for tracing data management-related activity.

There was discussion about adding enhancements to Desk Tracker to capture some of this activity. Scholarly Commons has drop down menu in tracker to enter data management questions;

The discussion focused on the challenges of using Desk Tracker to track “functional” type questions and there was debate as to whether it could be adapted for this purpose.

The committee will invite Jen to a future meeting to explore the possibility of using scholarly commons as the model for making changes to Desk Tracker options library-wide.

Scholarly commons tracks data questions specifically so how should these be incorporated into desk tracker in general. Two breakdowns would be users who need support for managing their own data versus users who want to find/access existing data sets, or, “finding” versus “managing.”
How granular does the library need to be for library-wide implementation? Details of data management consultations could be entered into the “description” field.

Other suggestions include creating separate menus that are triggered when one chooses “data” type question.

The READ scale is also problematic and not ideally suited to contemporary information services such as data and copyright.

Sarah S. suggested that there needs to be a broader conversation about what is tracked and by whom.

It was agreed that it may be also be time for a replacement for desk tracker; meanwhile, adjustments to desk tracker to capture questions about data management and data services should be implemented.

**Data for internal use:**

Can be pulled from other resources; for example, “file type” may be a proxy indicator for actual data deposited into IDEALS; however, some data, such as survey responses, may be in the form of a word document, or even pdf.

Some statistics will be fairly easy to compile, such as #DOIs created in EZID.

Some of these statistics decisions will fall under the purview of the new Research Data Services director.

Any major changes to Desk Tracker should be implemented and rolled out all at once and not piecemeal. A meeting with Jen and Sue would start that conversation and bring to light many of the issues surrounding use of desk tracker.

There may be resistance from those who input data for any revisions that require more of the end user.

Sarah W. will see if Sue and Jen can attend one of the November meetings; scholarly commons will share desk tracker screen shots for capturing data.

- Announcements or open discussion

Harriett/Peg – eResearch blog that outlines policies/topics/dates

Committee members are asked to go into box and sign up for posts related to their interests.

We will need links to blog and plans to promote it; Harriett will set up a twitter account associated with the blog; rds@illinois was suggested by Sarah W.
Sarah S. – hiring grad hourly to support web site and EZID, etc. have had very few applicants; one applicant can only work for 6 hours.

Sarah W. will send job description to committee.

Sarah S. - DMP tool will be released in the new version in November for testing; production in Jan/Feb

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm