Hubs and Centers as Transitional Change Strategy for Library Collaboration

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Advancing eResearch and Cyberlearning Programs

Overview:

- Organizational Change and Leadership
- Internal and External Transition and Innovation Strategies
- Change Ecosystem
Strategic Directions

• Learning Spaces
• Research and Curation
• Teaching, Learning, and Literacies
• Collections Access
Appreciative Inquiry

• Discover
• Dream
• Design
• Deliver
Hubs: Internal Strategies

- Separate core functions from strategic endeavors
  - Core functions are foundational programs, processes, and services that are carried out by departments. Examples include: reference, circulation, instruction, and cataloging.
  - Hubs are organizational units that explore common themes or issues of emerging strategic importance. Time is allocated to library faculty and staff members to work on self-directed and team-based projects

- Hubs behave as research and development units
  - Freedom to explore, imagine, and brainstorm new initiatives
  - Develop deeper understandings about the university’s academic enterprise
  - Opens possibilities for capacity building and infrastructure development
  - Encourages entrepreneurialism and risk-taking in a safe environment
  - Provides space for mentoring, peer-to-peer interaction, idea cultivation, and change transitioning
Learning Hub

• Research group with two core objectives:
  • Looking *broadly* across the learning enterprise at Virginia Tech
  • Looking *far-forward* at the emerging trends impacting libraries and higher ed

• Each member has topic of personal interest.
  • MOOCs
  • Transition from high school to college
  • Mobile display technologies

• Members are divided into two teams working on curriculum visualization models:
  • Inventory of assignments and skill building
  • Barriers, obstacles, and frustrations that students encounter
  • 360 perspective from tutors, advisors, faculty, writing center professionals, etc.
  • Objective is to move beyond traditional “info lit” approach and to embrace a more holistic perspective of the learning lifecycle
eResearch Hub

• Objectives
  • Examine emergent issues in networked and data-intensive research
  • Explore new roles that enable deeper engagement with the research enterprise
• Group projects, year one
  • Data Management Knowledgebase
  • eResearch and Data Literacy Program Design
    • Research management, digital object/content management, virtual collaboration tools, networked research technologies, research environment issues, scripting and programming, altmetrics
  • Outreach Clearinghouse
  • Workflows for Digital Curation
  • Research Commons
Campus Centers are interdisciplinary, interdepartmental partnerships with external mission-similar units and with faculty in other centers, labs, and research institutes across campus.

Virginia Tech Libraries’ involvement in centers:

- springs from research interests in developing eResearch and cyberlearning infrastructures.
- enable librarians and staff to experience work structures similar to disciplinary faculty
- involvement strengthens the Library’s position as experts and partners in the research and learning enterprise
- Changing campus perceptions of the library from traditional information service provider to a valuable partner in new initiatives.
Virginia Tech’s Center for Innovation in Learning seeks to stimulate, support, and assess innovative approaches to augmenting the human intellect.

The focus is exploring the edge of traditional learning methods and encouraging the application of new pedagogical practices.

Endeavors supported by the CIL share several important characteristics:

- The work is nimble and has the potential to scale.
- The work is differentiated from core practices.
- The work is intensely aspirational, motivated by an unusually strong sense of mission and purpose.

The Center serves as both a venture capital arm providing seed money for new projects, but also as a creative partner providing support and encouragement.

An advisory board consists of executive leaders from Learning Technologies, the Graduate School, the Division of Undergraduate Education, and the University Libraries. These four units share in funding as well as shaping strategic directions.
CENTER FOR DIGITAL RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP (CDRS)

CDRS offers tools and services that address the many research and scholarly environment needs of Virginia Tech researchers. We partner to solve academic problems and serve as consultants on digital curation processes.

EXPERTISE
- Digital Curation
- Metadata
- Domain Expertise
- Information Science
- Digital Project Management
- Digital Preservation
- Information Policy Issues
- Software Development

PROGRAMS
- Informatics
  - Digital Resources
  - Data Management & Publishing
- Digital Services
  - Repositories
  - Virtual Communities
  - Publishing
- Consulting
  - Data Management
  - Planning
  - Digital Projects
  - Digital Curation in Research Workflows
- Outreach