Value, Outcomes, and Return on Investment of Academic Libraries (Lib-Value) (funded by IMLS)

A collaboration between University of Tennessee, ARL, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and others
Overview of Project

Primary Goals

• Establish a fact-based articulation of the value and ROI of the university library resources and services within the wider mission of university administration.

• Develop a model for ROI and tools that implement this model which can be used by other academic libraries.
Lib-Value will...

• Incorporate all inputs in the library system (faculty, staff, students, library resources) and determine how each influences the system

• Articulate all values of the library and areas of investment and return

• Develop transportable methodologies and software tools that will help determine ROI and measure value
Lib-Value Management Team

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Builds on Recent Previous Work

- **Phase 1**: ROI in grants, case study at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (completed 2008)

- **Phase 2**: ROI in grants, expanded to 8 countries (2008-2009)

- **Lib-Value**: ROI and value for grants/research, teaching, student engagement, etc.
Main functional areas

Teaching / Learning
- Information
- Literacy
- Instruction
- Collections
- Classroom success
- Graduation rates
- Careers

Research
- Collections
- Publications
- Citations
- Usage
- Grants
- Prestige
- Faculty retention

Social / Professional
- Events
- Gatecounts
- Services
- Prof
- Memberships
- Perceptions
- Donations

Functional Areas and Downstream Measures
Cross Cutting Endeavors

Scholarly Endeavors

- Teaching/Learning
- Research
- Social/Professional

Functional Areas

- e-Science
- Collaborative Scholarship
- Institutional Repositories
Some Research Questions (thanks to ACRL)

• Does the library’s reputation influence enrollment? (more tuition)

• How does the library factor into retention of students (student achievement/student success)?

• How does the library increase the quality of students? (e.g., improve ratings in the National Survey of Student Engagement)
Questions – cont.

• In what ways does the library influence students’ attitudes about the overall quality of campus life? (future alums as donors)
• How does the library increase the amount of funding for research granted to the campus through its departments?
• How does the library increase the output of the Institute’s researchers (increased publication/patents and inventions)?
What we need from you today...

• What research questions would you like to see answered?
• Which functional areas are most important to you? Have we missed any?
• What types of tools would be helpful to you?
• What types of metrics are you willing to collect?
Thank you!

For more information or further input, please contact:

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• Or any of the Lib-Value management team