

## RESEARCH AND ANALYTICS (ASSESSMENT) PROGRAM

The Assessment Program Visioning Task Force began to address its charge in 2017 and as a result identified four broad recommendations as key to successfully creating a new assessment program:

- Align assessment with ARL's vision for the future of research libraries
- Develop a framework for action
- Refresh the data point collected and technology used
- Share knowledge and build community support.

The Assessment Committee has focused for the past year on developing the research library impact framework and the important next steps of creating pilot projects. During the Business Meeting, Steve Mandeville-Gamble, vice-chair of the Assessment Committee, will talk about the committee's recent activities, including the research library impact framework, and upcoming next steps.

The prioritized research pilot topics and the Abbreviated Research Library Impact Framework follow the FAQs.

### Research Library Impact Framework & Pilot Projects FAQs

#### 1. What is the purpose of the Research Library Impact Framework and what does it mean for my library?

- For Library Directors: Provides an overarching view that “pulls the pieces together” in a new and different way. Provides potential scaffolding for addressing assessment in the library. As it evolves, it will help the library deal with specific situations at the institution.
- For Assessment Professionals: Provides a tool for identifying priorities with the dean and other staff. Provides a view of opportunities to partner/collaborate with other libraries on issues I haven't been able to address individually in my library, potentially providing comparable data. Participation means that the results are more likely to meet my institution's needs. Allows me to contribute to the wider assessment community by providing feedback to the Framework on a regular basis.

#### 2. Since the Research Library Impact Framework is a “living document,” how will it be maintained and updated?

- Feedback/Edits/Additions - Will be solicited and captured in a way that allows privacy/confidentiality for those that want it. Feedback mechanisms may include:
  - Informal comments in Google Doc
  - Survey
  - Comment period
  - Posters/comments at member meetings
- Frequency TBD - Should be updated as frequently as necessary to stay current and relevant to ARL members' needs and contexts (e.g. every 1-5 years)
- Prioritization TBD - Should re-prioritize the Abbreviated Framework and Pilot Topics as frequently as necessary to drive the Pilots and Research Projects forward to meet members' needs.

### **3. What are the intended outcomes of these Research Projects?**

- To respond to ARL members' most pressing needs within the context of their parent institutions
- To better understand and articulate ARL member libraries' impact within the research and higher education ecosystems
- To iterate and refine research methodologies in support of the above
- To identify potential ARL stats to be further reviewed and tested

### **4. How are we going to populate these Library Impact Pilot Projects?**

- With bold experimenters willing to lead and learn along the way, for the benefit of their own libraries, and of the ARL and assessment communities.
- The initial pilots will also be experiments in finding the right makeup of the groups and testing what the libraries need assistance with in the course of the pilots.

### **5. What are the requirements for participation?**

- For the initial pilots, we are looking for a few bold experimenters that can leverage their local impact assessment interests (that fall within the recommended Pilot Topics) for their own and the community's, benefit.
- ARL member libraries and their staff can either lead, partner or participate in a Research Project, or they can write a Practice Brief.

### **6. What are the time and resource commitments involved?**

- Research Projects
  - Initial Research Project pilots will run for roughly 6 months, with but can continue for longer periods, depending on the needs and recommendations of the Research Project Teams.
  - Time and resource commitments will vary depending on the roles (e.g. leads, partners, or participants) and the nature of the research questions and approaches chosen by the Research Project Teams.
- Practice Briefs will be less time- and resource-intensive, but should be completed within 6 months.

### **7. Can we be agile in designing / delegating the roles and responsibilities?**

- Yes, particularly at the beginning.

### **8. What does 'leading' a Research Project mean / require?**

- Shaping the research to be relevant to your library's needs and concerns, and to the needs and concerns of the ARL community
- Making relevant and needed contributions to ARL and assessment communities
- Committing expertise, time, attention, and resources
- Holding ultimate accountability for delivery of results

### **9. How can ARL help?**

- Visiting Program Officer provides support structure
- Finding funding (e.g. IMLS)
- Finding partners

<b>August 2018 Top Priority Research Topics</b> <i>(And supporting topics)</i>	<b>Institutional Goal/s that this research will support</b> (Strategic goal of parent institution -- derived from institutional/university strategic plans)	<b>What library area/s of the Framework does this represent?</b> <i>(Research &amp; Scholarly Lifecycle; Teaching, Learning &amp; Student Success; Collections; and Physical Space)</i>
<b>1. (How) does the library help to increase research productivity and impact?</b>	Increase research productivity // Enable and promote (relevant, innovative, interdisciplinary) research	<b>Research</b>
<i>1A. (How) do library collections enhance, increase, or facilitate research productivity and strategic research initiatives at the institution?</i>	Increase research productivity	<b>Collections</b>
<i>1B. (How) does the library help to increase the impact of research?</i>	Increase research productivity	<b>Research</b>
<i>1C. (How) does the library support researchers in their entire research workflow?</i>	Enable and promote (relevant, innovative, interdisciplinary) research	<b>Research</b>
<b>2. (How) do library spaces facilitate innovative research, creative thinking and problem solving?</b>	Enable and promote (relevant, innovative, interdisciplinary) research	<b>Spaces</b>
<b>3. (How) does the library contribute to equitable student outcomes and an inclusive learning environment?</b>	Enable student success and Increase student retention/graduation // Enhance student experience // Promote diversity and inclusion	<b>Teaching / Spaces / Collections</b>
<i>3A. (How) do the library's collections contribute to student learning, achievement and success?</i>	Enable student success and Increase student retention/graduation	<b>Collections</b>
<i>3B. (How) does the library enable or promote student success and inclusiveness?</i>	Enable student success and Increase student retention/graduation	<b>Teaching / Spaces / Collections</b>
<i>3C. (How) do library collections and services support students' academic achievements in individual courses?</i>	Enable student success and Increase student retention/graduation	<b>Collections</b>
<i>3D. (How) do Library spaces enable student success and enhance the student experience?</i>	Enhance student experience	<b>Spaces</b>
<i>3E. (How) does the library contribute to an inclusive learning environment?</i>	Enhance student experience	<b>Teaching</b>
<i>3F. (How) does the library support the recruitment, matriculation, and academic success of distinctive student populations?</i>	Promote diversity and inclusion	<b>Teaching</b>
<b>4. (How) do the library's special collections specifically support and</b>	Cultivate, share and preserve unique scholarly resources	<b>Teaching / Collections</b>
<b>5. (How) do the library's collections play a role in attracting and retaining top researchers and faculty to the institution?</b>	Improve global reputation	<b>Collections</b>

Gray bars represent Parent Institution Goals (e.g. "Improve global reputation")	
Institutional Goal / Library Area (Research & Scholarly Lifecycle; Teaching, Learning & Student Success; Collections; and Physical Space)	Topics
<b>Improve global reputation</b>	
Collections	(How) do the library's collections play a role in attracting and retaining top researchers and faculty to the institution?
<b>Enable and promote (relevant, innovative, interdisciplinary) research</b>	
Research	(How) does the library support researchers in their entire research workflow?
Research	(How) does the library support the research data management and research data publishing needs of institutional stakeholders?
Spaces	(How) do library spaces facilitate creative thinking and problem solving?
Spaces	(How) do library spaces facilitate innovative research?
Spaces	(How) do library spaces facilitate interdisciplinary research?
<b>Enable research collaboration</b>	
Spaces	(How) do library spaces enable/ facilitate collaboration between researchers?
Research	(How) does the library directly support international and/or interdisciplinary research?
Collections	(How) do library collections impact research collaboration at the institution, and beyond?
Research / Teaching	(How) does the library support undergraduate student learning through engagement in research?
<b>Increase research productivity</b>	
Research	(How) does the library help to increase research productivity and impact?
Research	(How) does the library help to increase the impact of research?
Collections	(How) do library collections enhance, increase, or facilitate research productivity and strategic research initiatives at the institution?
<b>Enable and promote access to research, including open access</b>	
Collections	(How) does the library enable the dissemination of research (including publishing and open access)?
Collections	(How) does the library promote the adoption of open educational resources at the university?
<b>Cultivate, share and preserve unique scholarly resources (special collections)</b>	
Teaching / Collections	(How) do the library's special collections specifically support and promote teaching, learning, and research?
Collections	(How) is the library actively engaged in preservation of digital resources?
<b>Engage community</b>	
Collections	(How) does the library use its collections to emphasize and/or support engagement with the broader research community?
Spaces	(How) do library spaces support community engagement?
<b>Enable student success and Increase student retention/graduation</b>	
Collections	(How) do the library's collections contribute to student learning, achievement and success?
Teaching	(How) does the library promote increased retention of student from underrepresented communities?
Teaching / Spaces / Collections	(How) does the library enable or promote student success and inclusiveness?
Collections	(How) do library collections and services support students' academic achievements in individual courses?
Teaching	(How) do library subject liaisons contribute to graduate student success?
Teaching	(How) does the library contribute to information literacy?
Collections	(How) does the library's adoption/support of open educational resources contribute to student success?
<b>Enable teaching excellence and teaching innovation</b>	
Teaching	(How) does the library contribute to improvements in the quality of teaching?
Teaching	(How) does the library support or promote new models of distance learning?
<b>Enhance student experience</b>	
Spaces	(How) do Library spaces enable student success and enhance the student experience?
Teaching	(How) does the library create unique opportunities for intellectual stimulation?
Teaching	(How) does the library contribute to an inclusive learning environment?
<b>Enable faculty success</b>	
Teaching	(How) does the library enable success for all levels of teaching faculty?
<b>Promote diversity and inclusion</b>	
Teaching	(How) does the library support the recruitment, matriculation, and academic success of distinctive student populations?
Spaces	(How) do library spaces (either physical or virtual) support diversity, inclusion, and accessibility?
Collections	(How) does the library use its collections to emphasize and/or support diversity and inclusion?