Coming soon: Report on aligning library and institution directions

OCLC Research and Ithaka S+R will soon publish the report University Futures, Library Futures: Aligning library strategies with institutional directions, that establishes a new framework for understanding the fit between emerging library service paradigms and university types. Supported in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, project leads Constance Malpas, Lorcan Dempsey, and Rona Stein from OCLC Research and Roger Schonfeld and Deanna Marcum of Ithaka S+R, examined the impact of increased institutional differentiation in universities on the organization of academic libraries and the services they provide.

This report identifies nine key areas of library services, explores emerging patterns in different institutional settings, and gauges how important these services areas are—now and for the future—according to surveyed library directors. Using data from a large-scale survey and focus group interviews, the report examines how changing institutional missions and priorities affect services for students, and how libraries are responding to these changes.

Learn more at oc.lc/uflf.

Evaluate and share your library’s impact with help of webinar series

Ensure your library’s programs and services are meeting users’ needs and exceeding expectations by using evaluation techniques that demonstrate results. This three-part webinar series on user-centered assessment and evaluation will help you go from gut instinct to data-supported proof. The webinars, and an accompanying learner guide with activities, bring together research and practice from across academic, public, and research libraries, covering the ins and outs of creating and implementing assessments that provide insightful, actionable data. The series is led by OCLC Research’s Lynn Silipigni Connaway with guest presenters from the library field, and is hosted by WebJunction.

Part one focuses on user-centered assessment, part two provides tips and tricks for digging into data, and part three advises how to use and present research findings to make your case to key stakeholders. The webinars are perfect for library staff at any type of library—experience with data is not necessary. Watch the webinars and download the learner guide at oc.lc/assessmentwebinars.
Findings of international RIM survey coming soon

In October, OCLC Research, in collaboration with euroCRIS, will publish the results of a global survey of research information management (RIM) practices. The survey, which was completed by 381 institutions from 44 countries, demonstrates the global nature of RIM practices. Some key findings include:

• Institutions routinely use multiple systems to support RIM activities, and interoperability with both internal and external systems is extremely important.

• There are significant regional differences in RIM practice, driven by varying mandates for research assessment reporting and open science.

• There is an increasing merging of RIM and institutional repository workflows and functionality into a new, hybrid product category.

• RIM processes are supported by cross-stakeholder teams, with libraries increasingly assuming significant responsibilities, particularly related to open access, metadata entry and validation, training, and research data management.

Learn more at oc.lc/rimsurvey.

Delve into research data management with webinars, interest group

The OCLC Research Library Partnership (RLP) is currently hosting three webinars for RLP institutions to provide an in-depth exploration of research data management (RDM) in the real world. The webinars are a continuation of the work presented in the four-part report series The Realities of Research Data Management. Held October through December, and led by OCLC researchers Rebecca Bryant, Brian Lavoie, and Ixchel Faniel, the webinars will span understanding institutional RDM, identifying and acting on incentives when planning RDM services, and acquiring RDM services for your institution.

A companion RDM Interest Group will meet monthly after the live webinars to engage directly with OCLC Research and with each other. Learn more about these opportunities, how to sign up, and how to become an RLP member institution at oc.lc/rdmwebinars.

Works in Progress webinars showcase work of RLP, member institutions

Members of the OCLC Research Library Partnership (RLP) can participate in live webinars featuring research currently in progress at OCLC Research and in partner libraries around the world. While everyone can watch the recordings, participating in the live webinars is an exclusive benefit of membership in the RLP. This year has featured a variety of subjects, including special and unique collections, resource sharing, Wikidata, web archiving metadata, and research data management. Featured topics in upcoming webinars include linked data, research information management, and open access.

Learn more about future Works in Progress webinars at oc.lc/wipwebinars, and more about joining the RLP at oc.lc/rlp.

OCLC Research going to Australia in February

OCLC Research and the RLP will travel to Sydney, Australia, in February 2019. Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Director of Library Trends and User Research, will be a keynote speaker and lead a workshop at the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Information Online 2019 conference. The OCLC Research Library Partnership will also hold an event on 11 February in tandem with the conference focused on resource sharing and the collective collection, and how it impacts special collection services, as well as an in-depth session on research information management.

Learn more about these and additional RLP events, including a Linked Data Mini-Symposium in Leiden, the Netherlands—at oclc.org/research.
Grant to allow more small, rural libraries to transform their spaces

In partnership with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, OCLC’s WebJunction team has guided 15 small, rural libraries through a customized design thinking process to re-envision existing library space to better support active learning. Each library worked with its community to discover needs, ideate, prototype, build, and implement these “smart” spaces, which are igniting new partnerships, programming, and initiatives for the future. Visit oc.lc/smartspaces to tour the spaces and read stories of transformation that testify to the creativity and tenacity of these small communities and libraries.

In recognition of these libraries’ success, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded OCLC a supplemental grant to guide a second cohort of 15 small public libraries in the coming year. The opportunity for libraries to apply for this exciting program will be announced in November.

Wikipedia training curriculum now available online for library trainers

Training curriculum, slides, and handouts from the “Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together” course are now available to download and use for free. These newly released materials provide instruction and resources for trainers to teach library staff how to edit Wikipedia articles, run Wikipedia workshops, and organize community outreach events that incorporate Wikipedia. The curriculum release marks the completion of OCLC’s 18-month grant-funded project to strengthen ties between Wikipedia and US public libraries toward the common purpose of improving access to the world’s knowledge.

In addition to the curriculum for library trainers, visit oc.lc/oclc-wikilib for ideas on how to use Wikipedia to build community, extend librarianship, amplify stories, and teach literacies at your library.

Supercharge storytimes with new self-paced course, training materials

When young children are exposed to specific reading skills, they learn more successfully. “Supercharged Storytimes” is a research-based program that teaches storytime practitioners how to become a cornerstone in children’s early literacy development by implementing some simple practices that promote learning.

This October, WebJunction adds to its catalog a new self-paced course free to all library practitioners that teaches how to incorporate the six early literacy components that are key to learning; engage parents and caregivers in children’s early literacy; assess storytime successes; approach storytime through an equity lens; and grow intentionality and build peer community.

WebJunction is also holding a training that prepares librarians, storytime practitioners, and training coordinators to facilitate their peers and staff in taking in the Supercharged Storytimes self-paced course. Find out more at oc.lc/supercharged.

OCLC awarded IMLS grant to help libraries respond to opioid epidemic

OCLC has been awarded a National Leadership Grant by IMLS to support public libraries considering a community-based response to the opioid crisis. In partnership with the Public Library Association (PLA), OCLC Research will produce eight case studies from varied communities in which the public library is already playing a role in responding to the opioid crisis. The project team will glean additional perspectives and insights from federal government agencies, public health and human services organizations, community organizations, and library leaders. In addition to eight case studies, the project team will create a call-to-action white paper and webinar series, moderate a Facebook group, and curate content and resources for library staff across the country. Learn more about the project at oc.lc/opioidcrisisnews.
Linked data survey results, webinars, and more coming soon

OCLC Research’s Karen Smith-Yoshimura conducted the 2018 International Linked Data Survey for Implementers between 17 April and 25 April 2018, and results of the survey will soon be released. The survey aimed to review new linked data projects or services implemented since the survey was last conducted in 2015. In anticipation of the full report, Smith-Yoshimura has written two articles on the OCLC Research blog, Hanging Together, covering “Advice from linked data implementers” and “The rise of Wikidata as a linked data resource.” Read the posts at hangingtogether.org.

Two Works in Progress webinars will focus on linked data as well; visit oc.lc/wipwebinars for more details on the webinars, which will cover a walk-through of the linked data survey results, and enhancing search and discovery with linked data.

OCLC Research has a long and rich history in the area of linked data; to see where we’ve been and what’s coming next, make sure to visit oc.lc/linkeddataresearch.

OCLC researchers publish book chapters

ACADEMIC LIBRARY FUTURES IN A DIVERSIFIED UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

In this chapter included in the book *Higher Education in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution*, Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President, Membership and Research, and Constance Malpas consider the future of the academic library in the context of a diversifying higher education system. They explore ways in which libraries are responding to the transition from a collections-based model to a more diffuse services-based model, and describe diversification of the higher education system, around poles of research, liberal education, and career preparation. Read the chapter at oc.lc/futureschapter.

ASSESSING FOR ALIGNMENT: HOW TO WIN COLLABORATORS AND INFLUENCE STAKEHOLDERS

Published in the book *Shaping the Campus Conversation on Student Learning and Experience: Activating the Results of Assessment in Action*, this chapter by Stephanie Mikitish, Vanessa Kitzie, and OCLC Research’s Lynn Silipigni Connaway reports on findings from an action-oriented research agenda project that examined how academic libraries can contribute to student learning and success and demonstrate these contributions. Read the chapter at oc.lc/alignmentchapter.