Management of UC Digital Scholarly Information Assets
Initial Inquiry

Program Components

Objective: Develop an institutional discussion and planning framework for addressing issues and institutional options involved in a Universitywide (ten campus) program to capture and manage UC's digital scholarly information assets, incorporating consideration of the responsibilities of various UC constituencies in their roles as authors/compilers, users, and stewards of this content at various stages in its life-cycle.

Initial program components:

° <u>Characterizing wants and needs.</u> Provide an initial characterization of the various kinds of content produced by faculty, students and staff in digital form; the purposes for its production and its potential uses; the provenances of its production; and the expectations of creators and users for its persistence, management, and access. Methods may include interviews/focus groups with faculty (and other key constituencies if justified), and consultation with representatives of administrative constituencies (e.g., research administration, CIOs, records managers). Current planning is focused on faculty interviews/focus groups.

° <u>Estimating quantities and types of digital information assets.</u> Develop initial estimates of the quantities and types of digital information that might be captured in a systemwide program. Methods may include general and/or targeted Web crawls of UC domains ("Web demographics"), "desk audits" of faculty and research group computers and servers (likely coordinated with faculty interviews/focus groups) and focused exploration of the digital asset holdings of key UC locations, such as selected MRUs and ORUs (through Web site review, interviews, and other means). Targets could be identified through a combination of (a) tacit knowledge and consultation with campus sources, (b) systematic sampling of a list of campus and multi-campus research units, (c) identification of data-intensive research projects (through review of the UC Contracts and Grants database, consultation with major granting agencies such as NIH and NSF, etc.), and (d) other methods. Current planning is focused on an initial Web crawl of UC domains**.**

° <u>Exploring institutional strategies and solutions.</u> Identify peer institutions and organizations whose experience can provide useful guidance for planning a UC systemwide program. The primary method is consultation with leading centers and programs, nationally and internationally, to improve understanding of institutional issues (financial, programmatic, political…) and identify useful strategies, tactics and practices that should be considered in UC's planning.

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