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Using Websites to Study Library Resources, Services, and Organizations

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Using Websites to Study Library Resources, Services, and Organizations

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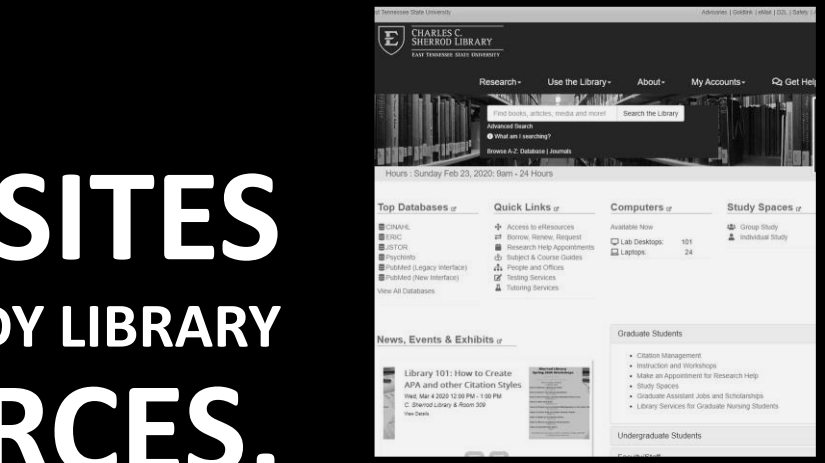
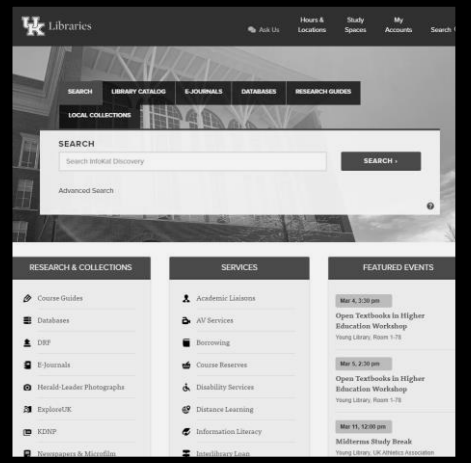
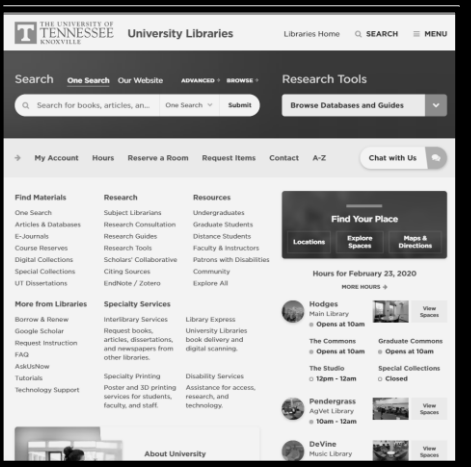
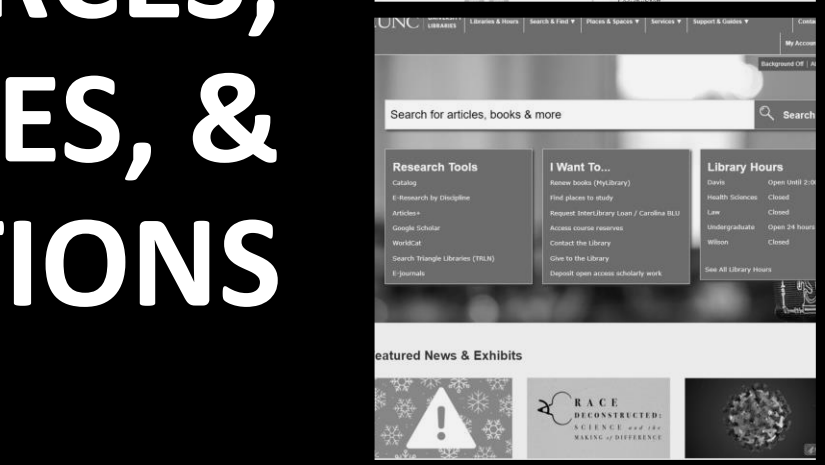
USING WEBSITES TO STUDY LIBRARY RESOURCES, SERVICES, & ORGANIZATIONS

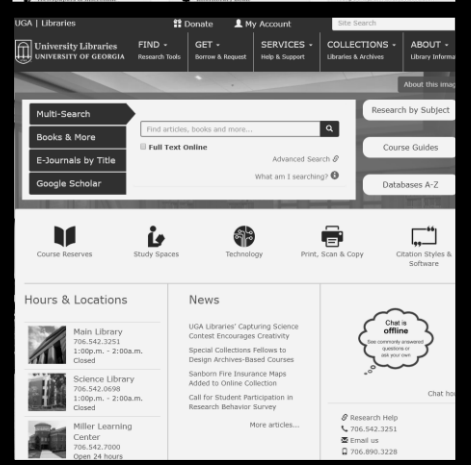
ASHLEY D.R. SERGIADIS
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

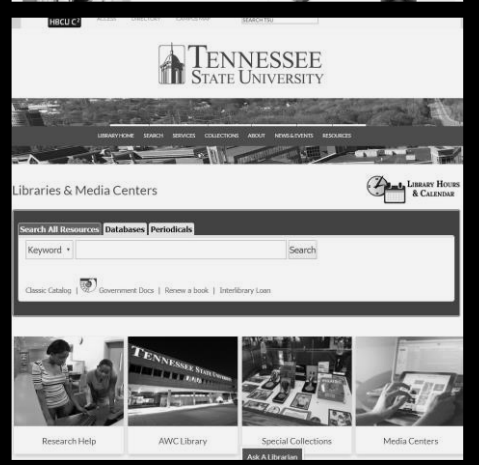


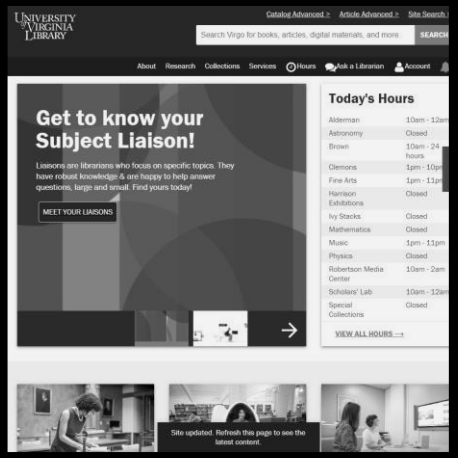


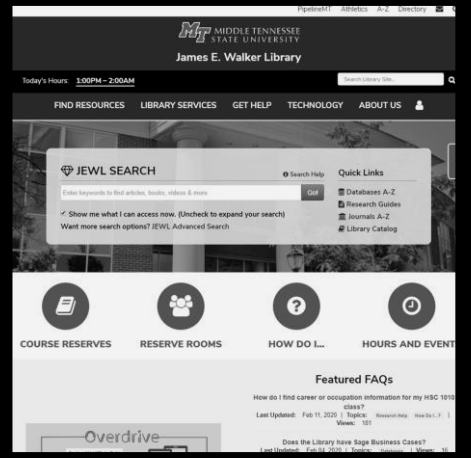


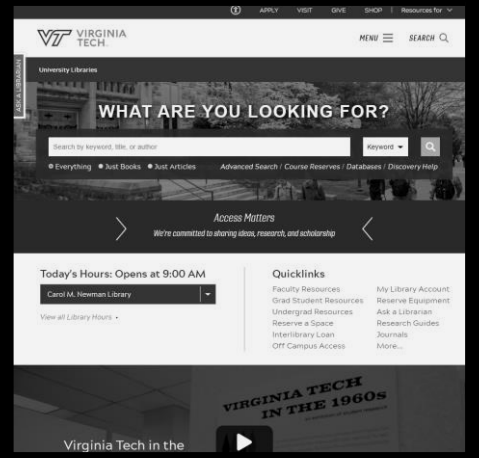




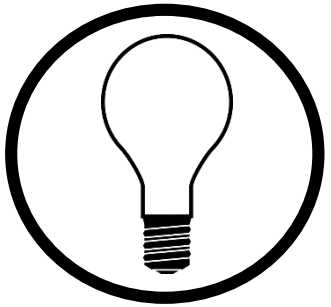






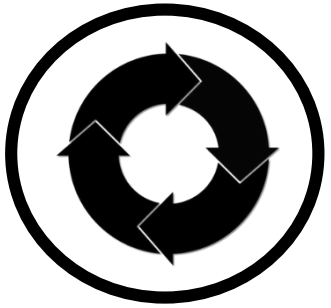


OUTLINE

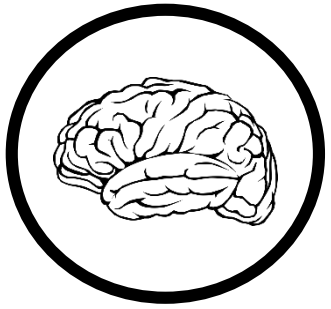


Background

Research Questions



Methods



Brainstorm Activity

Where Are They Now:
A Study to Identify Departments Managing Institutional Repositories

Ashley D.R. Sergiadis

East Tennessee State University

Background

Have you ever attended an event about institutional repositories (IRs)? If so, you may have encountered a scenario where everyone's titles are different, but they all manage an IR.

Hi! I'm a _____ and I manage the institutional repository!

OPEN

Results: Baccalaureate

The following information describes the results of Baccalaureate Colleges, including comparisons of those with an Arts and Sciences Focus and Diverse Fields.

Comparison of Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts and Sciences Focus and Diverse Fields

OPEN

Results: Master's

The following information describes the results of Master's Colleges and Universities, including comparisons of those with Small Programs, Medium Programs, and Larger Programs.

Comparison of Master's Colleges and Universities: Small Programs, Medium Programs, and Larger Programs

OPEN

Results: Doctoral

The following information describes the results of Doctoral Universities, including comparisons of those with Doctoral/Professional Universities, High Research Activity, and Very High Research Activity.

Comparison of Doctoral Universities: Doctoral/Professional Universities,

OPEN

Methods

In January 2019, spreadsheets of the following Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education were downloaded: Doctoral Universities (Very High Research Activity, High Research Activity, Doctoral/Professional Universities), Master's Colleges & Universities (Larger Programs, Medium Programs, Small Programs), and Baccalaureate Colleges (Arts & Sciences Focus, Diverse Fields).

OPEN

Results: Comprehensive

The following information describes the results of all categories, including comparisons of Baccalaureate Colleges, Master's College and Universities, Doctoral Universities.

Comparison of Baccalaureate Colleges, Master's College and Universities, Doctoral Universities

Doctoral Universities had the highest percentage of institutional repositories (IRs) followed by Master's Colleges and Universities and Baccalaureate Colleges (78%, 33%, and 15%, respectively). Doctoral Universities had a higher number of institutions with a library website that connected the management of the IR with a department than Master's Colleges and Universities and Baccalaureate Colleges (218, 86, and 48, respectively). From Baccalaureate Colleges to Master's College

OPEN

Conclusion

Based on the results, institutional repositories (IRs) are currently being managed by different types of departments across Carnegie Classifications. However, departments become more narrowly defined from Baccalaureate Colleges to Master's Colleges and Universities to Doctoral Universities. This trend coincides with the percentage of IRs within each Carnegie Classification. For example, Doctoral

OPEN

http://bit.ly/ir-poster

BACKGROUND

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Let’s try an activity to explore what type of content on library websites is available for research…

WHAT TYPE OF CONTENT CAN YOU FIND ON LIBRARY WEBSITES?

- Contact Info
- Events
- ……
- Org. Chart
- ……..

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What are the limitations of this content on library websites in terms of research?

Let’s review examples of research questions from the literature…

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(1) To what extent are AAU library websites promoting traditional and non-traditional metrics and tools to demonstrate a scholar's impact?

(2) What conclusions can we draw about this information?

Suiter, A. M., & Moulaison, H. L. (2015). Supporting scholars: An analysis of academic library websites' documentation on metrics and impact. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, *41*(6), 814–820. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2015.09.004

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(1) What percentage of ARL libraries make their mission statement available online?

(2) Is there a direct link from the library main page to the mission statement?

(3) Is there a slogan for the libraries on the main library web page?

(4) What is the mode number of pages navigated from the library homepage to reach the mission statement?

(5) Is there a noticeable difference in accessibility of mission statements between public and private institutions?

Salisbury, P. & Griffis, M.R. (2014). Academic library mission statements, web sites, and communicating purpose. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, *40*, 592-596. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2014.07.012

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(1) What are the major Web 2.0 applications applied in academic libraries?

(2) For what purposes are these Web 2.0 applications being used by academic libraries?

(3) What is the general direction in which Web 2.0 is developing or changing?

Boateng, F. and Liu, Y.Q. (2014). Web 2.0 applications' usage and trends in top US academic libraries. *Library Hi Tech*, *32*(1), 120-138. https://doi.org/10.1108/LHT-07-2013-0093

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This study examined the research data (management) services in academic libraries in the United States through a content analysis of 185 library websites…

This research provides an overall understanding of where research data management programs are and where they are going;

it also facilitates the understanding of current practices and data management recommendations and/or tool adoptions and reveals areas that need improvement and support.

Yoon, A., & Schultz, T. (2017). *Research data management services in academic libraries in the US: A content analysis of libraries' websites*. https://doi.org/10.5860/crl.78.7.920

Questions?

CHECK-IN

Content analysis: systematic, objective, quantitative analysis of message characteristics.

Neuendorf, K.A. (2017) *The content analysis guidebook* (2nd edition). https://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781071802878.n1

Coding: the process by which observations…are transformed from raw data into categories and classifications, which then become the subject of quantitative data analysis.

Jupp, V. (2006). *The Sage dictionary of social research methods*. https://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9780857020116.n22

METHODS

METHODS

1. Which library websites will you use for your analysis?

2. What information do you need to locate on the website? And, how are you going to synthesize the data?

3. What is your procedure for finding the information?

Let’s go through the steps with these research questions in mind:

Which departments in libraries are the primary managers of institutional repositories?

How does this differ based on Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education?

METHODS

Which library websites will you use for your analysis?

Which departments in libraries are the primary managers of institutional repositories?

How does this differ based on Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education?

METHODS

Which library websites will you use for your analysis?

Which departments in libraries are the primary managers of **institutional repositories**?

How does this differ based on **Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education**?

Colleges/universities with an institutional repository

Carnegie Classifications; Determine which ones are the focus

METHODS

Which library websites will you use for your analysis?

Carnegie Classifications:
https://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/

Spreadsheet – Academic Libraries (w/ URLs) by Carnegie Classification:
http://bit.ly/library-website-carnegie

US News and Reports:
https://www.usnews.com/education

Association of Research Libraries:
https://www.arl.org/list-of-arl-members/

METHODS

What information do you need to locate on the website? And, how are you going to synthesize the data?

Which departments in libraries are the primary managers of institutional repositories?

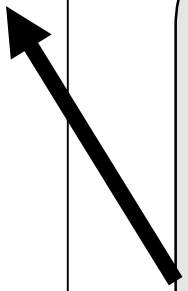
How does this differ based on Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education?

METHODS

What information do you need to locate on the website? And, how are you going to synthesize the data?

Which **departments in libraries** are the primary managers of institutional repositories (IRs)?

How does this differ based on Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education?

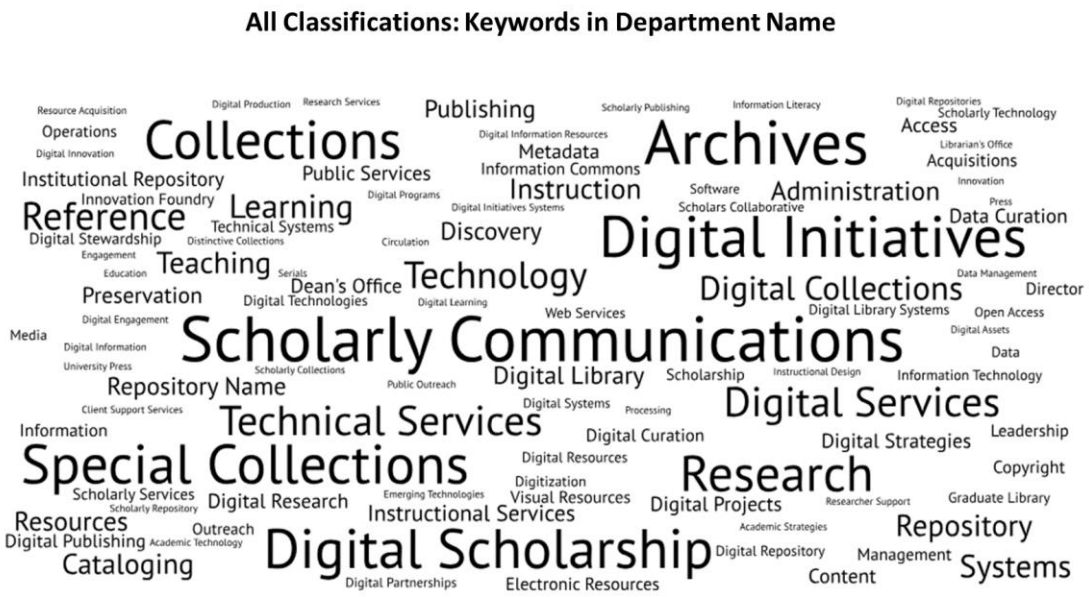


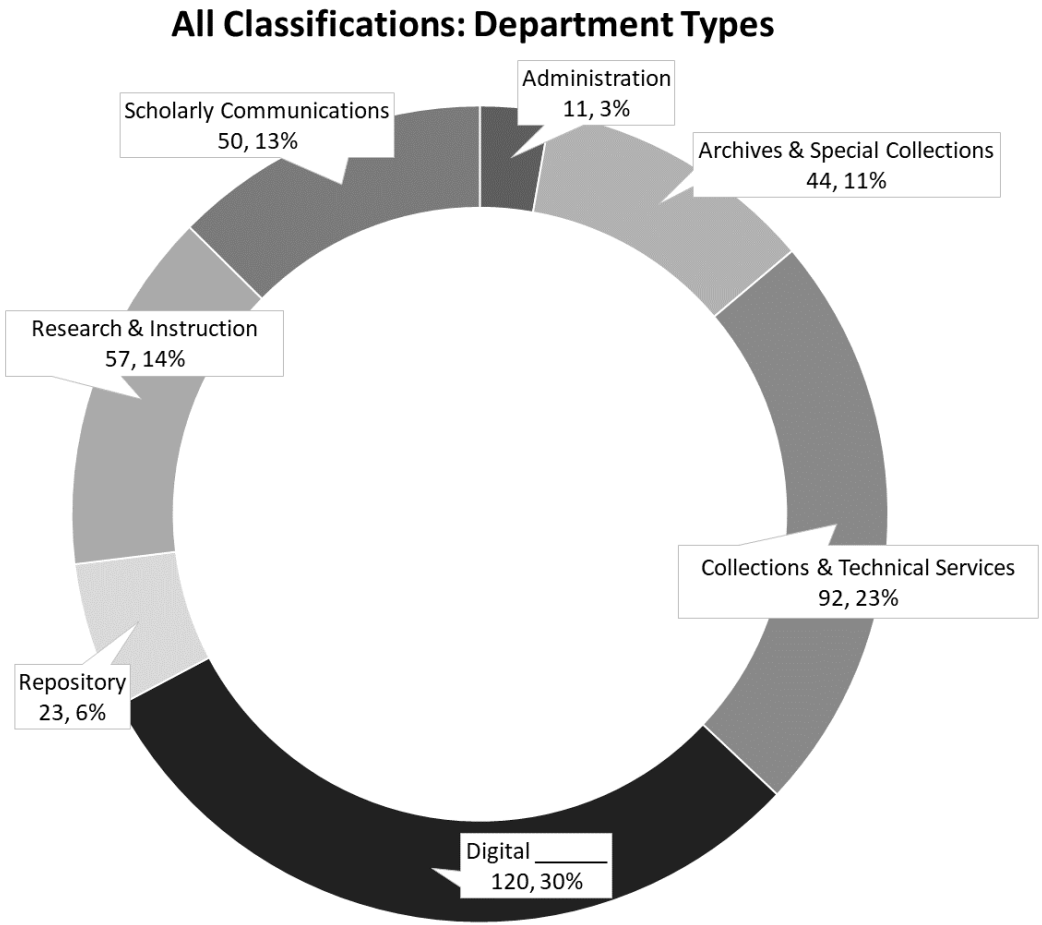
IRs contact information
Staff directory
Organizational chart
Department descriptions

Departments need to be coded.

METHODS

What information do you need to locate on the website? And, how are you going to synthesize the data?





NOT CODED **VS.** **CODED**

METHODS

What is your procedure for finding the information?

Information Needed:

IRs contact information
Staff directory
Organizational chart
Department descriptions

Procedure for Finding Information

1. Browse then search the IRs for contact information.
2. Browse then search the library website for the staff directory, organizational chart, and department descriptions.
3. Browse then search the library website (and institution's website) for the term "institutional repository" OR the name of the IR.

METHODS

Questions?

CHECK-IN

Using Websites to Study Library Resources, Services, and Organizations

Ashley D.R. Sergiadis, East Tennessee State University

Exercise 1: Research Questions

Write research question(s) that could be explored using a content analysis of library websites.

Helpful Hints: Consider questions that would help you at your job. What services or resources do you support at your job? Do other libraries have these services or resources? How are they supporting them?

Exercise 2: Methods

Choose one of your research questions. Plan what methods you would use to explore that question.

Step 1: Which library websites will you use for your analysis?
Helpful Hints: Does your research question refer to a service or resource? What type of libraries tend to offer that service or resource? Are there already established groups of libraries that would be a good fit with your research question?

Step 2: What information do you need to locate on the website? And how are you going to synthesize the data?
Helpful Hints: What are the keywords in your research question? What type of information is available on library websites that relates to those keywords? Do you plan on creating a checklist, coding the data, etc.? What program will you use to collect and document the data?

Step 3: What is your procedure for finding the information?
Helpful Hints: Both searching and browsing are often utilized during a content analysis. Review your research questions for ways it tests procedure (i.e. how easy is it to find…).

Write research question(s) that could be explored using a content analysis of library websites.

ACTIVITY

Plan what methods you would use to explore one of your research questions.

ACTIVITY

Questions?

Contact : sergiadis@etsu.edu