Launching the Resource Repository for Assessment Librarians
From Needs Assessment to Pilot & Beyond
Presenters

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Introduction: Setting the Stage

Library Assessment Repository circa 2015

Jessame Ferguson

LLAMA
Library Leadership & Management Association
A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
“...easy-to-use system for organizing and accessing library assessment examples, products and findings. This will allow librarians to share any type of assessment method and resulting findings, including those that are often never published, such as inconclusive or negative results. Through well-organized searching options, it will allow all librarians to find evidence based assessment models to begin their projects and then compare their findings with the results of others.”
Needs Assessment Survey

- Conducted in Spring 2017
- 379 Responses
- Predominantly academic librarians
Select how you might use a freely available, online Library Assessment Repository

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Search the repository for examples of instruments or tools to use</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review results, reports or case studies as examples of best practice</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit instruments (surveys, rubrics, questionnaires) or tools</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locate peers or colleagues doing similar work as me</td>
<td>77.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review findings from similar studies to compare to my own findings</td>
<td>76.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find answers to commonly asked questions</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share assessment results or findings from studies done by my library or organization</td>
<td>65.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find other repositories that include assessment-related resources in my area of interest</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How likely would you be to use these resources?
Most desired

- Easy to navigate interface to find resources
- Quality of resources
- Good alignment with resources and what I'd like to measure
- Easy to use
- Good organization, with quality metadata
Managing the Pilot of Omeka.net
Library Assessment Repository Pilot Site

Featured Item

Assessment on the Ground

Blog that profiles assessment activities at Temple University Libraries and beyond

Recently Added Items

Workshop Feedback

This is a half-page assessment form designed to gather participant feedback at the end of a workshop.

Review of Poll Everywhere

Poll Everywhere allows users to poll live audiences with a single question (or a group of questions/polls) using mobile devices that access the web...
Usability Testing Methods

Usability Test—six tasks and a posttask interview
Seven test participants, some located remotely
Zoom served as an effective testing tool
  - Allowed remote or “hybrid” testing
  - Screen Sharing and Recording features were effective
  - Streamlined consent process
Usability Testing Results

Usability Threshold met! All tasks rated “easy” or “somewhat easy” by most participants

Identified “sticking points”:

- Choosing metadata
- Browse Collection display
- Filtering by Institution type not available
Lessons Learned: Needs Assessment

- Survey served as excellent advocacy tool
- Survey design: might have asked users to rank items
Lessons Learned: Usability Testing

- Zoom as a usability assessment tool
- Needs assessment informed usability testing
- Challenges of collaborative research among multiple institutions: IRB
- Some results raise questions for further consideration
  - Audience--which groups will use the LAR?
  - Platform--is ease of use or a close fit between form and function more important?
Lessons Learned: Grassroots Pilot Process

Volunteer Coordination & Communication in a Virtual Environment

- Documentation for passing the baton
- Staying true to the original intent while allowing for new innovation
- Single team in Phase II
Next Steps: Scope and Sustainability

Scope:
Is this a space for sharing research, or is this a space for sharing assessment projects and tools? Should we include all types of resources, or select a single type?

Sustainability:
How can we best structure the project to ensure sustainability in terms of volunteer effort for administration, marketing and recruitment of resources over time?
Next steps: Start with the Scope or the Platform?

- **Scope** Inform Policies & Functionalities Inform **Platform?**
- **Platform** Inform Policies & Functionalities Inform **Scope?**

Or Does
Many Thanks!: Contributors to Omeka.net 2018 Pilot Phase 1

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