

Five Piloted Research Questions

1. [\(How\) do library collections play a role in attracting and retaining top researchers and faculty to the institution?](#)
2. [\(How\) do library spaces facilitate innovative research, creative thinking and problem solving?](#)
3. [\(How\) do the library’s special collections specifically support and promote teaching, learning and research?](#)
4. [\(How\) does the library contribute to equitable student outcomes and an inclusive learning environment?](#)
5. [\(How\) does the library help to increase research productivity and impact?](#)

Evaluation of RLIF Initiative

Two methods were used to collect participant feedback about their motivations for engagement in the RLIF initiative, the level of support received from ARL and the VPO team, experiences in completing a project or practice brief, and recommendations for future initiatives and issues ARL should explore. Social science consultant, Margaret Roller, conducted in-depth interviews with one or two members of each project or practice brief team. The VPO team designed two surveys, one to collect feedback from deans and directors whose libraries had teams participating in the initiative and another survey directed at all team members.

Team Members In-depth Interviews (N=78, 26 participants)

ARL Support	Collaboration	RLIF Structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communication ● Training ● Responsiveness ● Online support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feeling connected ● “Being part of a larger picture” ● Learning from others ● Paired with another institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Layers, goal, scope ● Time commitment ● Research questions

The themes derived from one or more of these categorical areas, and respective key elements, explain what was learned from the 26 interviews related to team members’ motivations, expectations, experiences with the initiative and their project work, as well as their interest in participating in future ARL initiatives and their recommendations to ARL towards “success” with a future initiative similar to the RLIF.

Deans/Directors Online Survey (N=16, 6 respondents)

Questions	Summary Responses
Motivation to participate in the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opportunity to participate in an ARL initiative
Change(s) resulting from their team's project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Higher visibility of the library's expertise ● Prioritization of assessment and digitization of collections ● Heightened understanding of the human capacity needed to maintain and support new services
Initiative's impact on library assessment practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Some impact"
Examples of the initiative's impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improved understanding of and engagement with assessment ● A better ability to assess impact and tell an evidenced-based story of collaboration ● Incorporation of a diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility lens in assessment practices

Team Members Online Survey (N=78, 13 respondents)

Questions	Summary Responses
Motivation to participate in the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relevance of the research question ● Opportunity to participate in an ARL initiative
Level of support from ARL, the VPO, and the library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Just right"
If the RLIF initiative should continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage ARL to offer more collaborative opportunities
Will you continue or expand your project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Yes" or "Maybe"
Skills and knowledge gained from the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be used in new projects ● To be used in their day-to-day work activity ● To expand current project or practice brief