

## Taking Stock of Your Data Holdings: Pitfalls and Pearls

### Key Issue/Challenge & Key Decision Maker

- **Main purpose:** To open the data to everyone to improve efficiency (reducing duplication of effort), but more importantly, enables library staff to make data-informed decisions.
- **Main drivers:** Access, transparency, and building a culture of assessment.
- **Key Challenge:** An aversion to “assessment” for anything beyond “how good we are”.

### Best Possible Course of Action

- Develop a repository
- Gradually incorporate data
- Standardize common attributes or facets
- Actively share data

### Possible Decisions to be Made

- How to approach this idea of a centralized repository with a reluctant crew
- Which do we tackle first – building the repository or generating interest/collaborations/etc.?
- Top-down or bottom-up (is there another direction?)
- How to best frame this idea?
- Whom to approach first?
- What are the repository technical details (which network branch, technical organization of files, etc.)?
- How to best migrate the data?

### Apply to Future Projects

- Breaking down barriers and merging silos
- Universal access to data and information
- Shifting attitudes of data ownership
- Changing ways of using data to support decision making

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