We Have Only Scratched the Surface: The Role of Student Research in Institutional Repositories

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The Role of Student Scholarship in Institutional Repositories

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Outline

• IR Landscape
• Student scholarship in IRs—then and now
• Examples of variety of student scholarship
• Trajectory of our research
• Survey results
• Conclusions
• Future work
IR Landscape

• First IR on the scene—MIT digital archive in early 2000s
• Today, 297 IRs in the US
• Average # of items—28,751
Transformation of IRs

Student research plants the seed.
Faculty work grows and takes over.
Live Audience Poll Using Poll Everywhere

- What student research do you actively collect?
Characterizing and Quantifying Night Sky Brightness in Utah and Arizona
The Story of Our Study
Survey says... forms of student scholarship

Types of student scholarship

- Articles published in undergraduate research journals
- Articles published in peer reviewed journals
- Creative Performances
- Exhibits (displays of art, information, collections, etc. in...)
- Presentations
- Posters

# Faculty Reporting
Where is it happening

Students present

- At national or international venues
- At regional venues
- At state venues
- At local venues
- At campus venues

% Faculty Respondents Reporting
Survey results–Benefits (possible & realized) of student work

- Showcasing student accomplishments
- Examples of completed projects
- Sharing scholarship with prospective employers
Live Audience Poll Using Poll Everywhere

- What concerns do you, or others at your institution, have about collecting student research?
Survey says...

- Faculty concerns about collecting/preserving student research
  - Quality of student work
  - Work is slated for publication
  - Data in work is undergoing additional analysis and will be included in future publications
Survey says...

• IR Librarians concerns about collecting/preserving student
  • Not enough staff time

• Difficulty obtaining scholarship
  • determining when students present research at off campus venues
  • students publish papers with faculty
  • Actually *getting* the scholarship
Live Audience Poll Using Poll Everywhere

• Do the benefits outweigh the concerns?
Conclusions

• Preserving and promoting student research has clear alignment with institutional mission
• Libraries can be leaders in helping campus partners see the value and potential of this resource
• Opportunity
Future Work

• Spread the good word—student research is a great collaborative opportunity for libraries
• Subject librarians
• Replicate survey at other institutions nation wide
THANK YOU

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