

# COAR/LIBER/ARL/CARL Joint Task Force on Librarians' Competencies in Support of E-Research and Scholarly Communication

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# Overview

- Drivers behind Task Force collaboration
- Information on the sponsoring organizations
- Scope of Project
- Work to date
  - Organizing work output and formats
  - First service areas:
    - Research Data Management
    - Scholarly Communication and Open Access
    - Digital Humanities
- Future Work
- Feedback and Q&A

# Drivers for the Competencies Task Force

- Need for a clearer idea of how the changing scholarly communications landscape affects the competencies required to be effective in emerging roles
- Discussion around COAR training in Latin America for repository managers, evolved into competencies, included in COAR Strategic Plan
- LIBER then joined and ARL involved, and then CARL

# Sponsoring Organizations: COAR and LIBER

- **Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR)**
  - Established 2009; 100+ member institutions globally
  - Mission: to enhance the visibility and application of research outputs through a global network of open access digital repositories.
  - Activities range from the engagement in working and interest groups, advocacy activities, and training opportunities.
  - <https://www.coar-repositories.org/>
- **Association of European Research Libraries (LIBER)**
  - Established 1971; over 400 national, university and other libraries in 40+ countries
  - Together we work to represent the interests of European research libraries, their universities and their researchers
  - Public policy on copyright and open access, collaborative projects, networking and professional development
  - <http://www.libereurope.eu/>

# Sponsoring Organizations: ARL and CARL

- Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
  - Established 1932; 125 research libraries in US and Canada
  - Operates as a forum for the exchange of ideas and as an agent for collective action.
  - <http://arl.org/>
- Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL)
  - Established 1972; 29 largest university libraries and two federal institutions
  - Improving services to academic communities, public policy advocacy, collaboration to improve access to information
  - <http://www.carl-abrc.ca/en.html?lng=1>

# Task Force Members

- *Chair* - Iryna Kuchma - , COAR and EIFL
- Pascal Calarco - CARL and University of Waterloo
- Rob Grim - LIBER and Tilburg University
- Alicia López Medina – COAR and Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia
- Susan Reilly – LIBER
- Judy Ruttenberg – ARL
- Birgit Schmidt – LIBER and Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
- Kathleen Shearer – COAR and CARL
- Dominic Tate – COAR and University of Edinburgh

# Scope of the Project

- Aim of the task force is to outline the competencies needed by librarians in this evolving environment.
- First step will be to identify the various avenues of service for libraries within the context of e-research, repository management, and scholarly communication.
- These services and roles will then be mapped to the competencies required by librarians and library professionals.
- The task force will also make note of the array of organizational models evolving to support new services.
- The task force will produce a toolkit that will help to build capacity in libraries for supporting new roles in the area of scholarly communication and e-research.
- We anticipate that the toolkit will provide an outline of new organizational models that are evolving in this dynamic environment.

# First Steps

- Establish collaboration tools and processes
- Conduct literature review
- Identified specialisation areas that support E-Research
- Setting up wiki for community communication and feedback
- What 'the toolkit' might look like – ideas discussed



# Collaborative Working

The screenshot shows a Wikispaces Classroom interface for a space named 'competenciesTF'. At the top, there is a search bar and user information for 'pvcalarco', including links for 'My Wikis', 'Help', and 'Sign Out'. Below this is a navigation bar with icons for 'Members', 'Projects', 'Events', 'Assessment', and 'Settings'. A central toolbar contains icons for profile, document, link, comment, project, and calendar. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Your Classroom!' message, explaining that Wikispaces Classroom offers additional features like newsfeeds, project scheduling, file uploads, and real-time engagement assessment. A 'Deadline for first draft of first competencies group - Jan 30 2014' is listed at the bottom. On the right, a sidebar provides navigation options: 'Home' (with links to 'pages' and 'changes'), 'All Pages', 'Advisory Group', 'Competencies Framework', 'Literature Review', 'New library services in scholarly communication and e-research', and 'Task Force Draft Report', along with an 'edit navigation' link.

competenciesTF Search 2 pvcalarco | My Wikis | Help | Sign Out

Members Projects Events Assessment Settings

Profile Document Link Comment Project Calendar

**Welcome to Your Classroom!**  
Your Wikispaces Classroom is like the wiki you know and love with a few neat new tricks:

- Announce, schedule, and discuss in your newsfeed at the bottom of this page.
- Create projects -- with optional start and end dates -- for assignments and topic areas.
- Add pages, files, and more from the top right of every page.
- Assess student engagement in real time.

Click edit at the top right of this section to add your own welcome message and information about your class.

Deadline for first draft of first competencies group - Jan 30 2014

Home pages changes

All Pages

Advisory Group

Competencies Framework

Literature Review

New library services in scholarly communication and e-research

Task Force Draft Report

edit navigation

# Literature Review

- 40+ and growing articles and reports
- Collaboratively contributed
- Intentionally global
- Professional association reports as well as scholarly works
- As appropriate, will be referenced and briefly annotated in each of the Toolkit Service Areas

# Identifying E-Research Support Areas

- Sources:
  - Areas and specializations identified in literature
  - Emerging areas of growth in professional job postings
  - TF members professional knowledge and experience
- Challenges:
  - Defining what we mean by some of the terms e.g. “scholarly communications”
  - Relationships and overlap between specializations, competencies, skills
  - There is a lot of jargon to cut through
  - Qualifications for competencies based in practice, less in academic programs, although this is evolving

# Job Adverts and Descriptions

- The Task Force have analysed adverts and job descriptions from North America & Europe
- Useful in capturing quickly emerging/evolving areas before they make it into the literature
- Categories:
  - Curation
  - Data Management
  - Preservation/Digital Preservation
  - Digitization/Digital Initiatives
  - Instructional Services
  - Metadata
  - Repository Management
  - Research Support
  - Technology Services

# Approaches to Service Areas Template

- Research Data Management, Scholarly Communications and Open Access:
  - Definition
  - Roles involved
  - Competencies
  - Typical job titles
  - Functions / Key Results Expected
  - Related service areas
  - Selected Literature

# Approaches to Service Areas Template

- Digital Humanities:
  - Definition
  - Typical job titles
  - Functions / Key Results Expected
  - Position highlights from postings
  - Services
  - Training
  - Tasks and Skills

# First Competency Areas: RDM

- Core competencies:
  - Providing access to data
  - Advocacy and support for managing data
  - Managing data collections
- Related service areas and roles:
  - Open access and institutional repositories, collection development, advisory services (copyright, policies, etc.), information literacy, digital curation, digital preservation, digital collections
  - To work with: Data Creator, Data Scientist, Research Coordinator/Manager, Data Curator, Digital Preservation Librarian, Repository Manager, Subject Librarian

# First Competency Areas: Scholarly Communication and Open Access

- Core competencies:
  - Scholarly publishing services
  - Copyright and OA advocacy and outreach
  - Scholarly resource assessment
- Related service areas and roles:
  - Research data management, collection development, advisory services (copyright, policies, etc.), information literacy
  - To work with: Digital Repository Librarian, Subject Librarian, Digital Initiatives Librarian, Digital Humanities Librarian



# First Competency Areas: Digital Humanities

- Core competencies:
  - Scholarly communication and publishing
  - Technical services and collection management
  - Digital lifecycle information management
  - Client engagement & training
- Related service areas and roles:
  - Digital Humanities Librarian role is directly related with Repository Manager, Data Manager and Scholarly Communication Librarian.

# Other Anticipated Service Areas

- Digital preservation
- Digital Curation
- Metadata
- Research Support
- Instructional Services
- Repository Management
- Digital Initiatives
- Technology Services

# Clustering competencies/specializations

- Identifying areas of overlap as each service area is developed
- Probably aggregate areas that are very close in competencies/roles
- “Hard”, technical skills and “soft” communications and management skills
- This is a rapidly evolving area

# Discussion: What Might the Toolkit Look Like?

- Web-based, possibly a portal?
- A tool for professional development?
- An aggregation of documents and web resources?
- A guide for developing new positions for specific needs?
- Audience: recruiting managers, practitioners, course organisers

# Consulting Committee

- Additional volunteers who are interested in this work:
  - Hilton Gibson (Stellenbosch University)
  - Kara Jones (University of Bath Library)
  - Tony Roche (Emerald)
  - Dr Stephen Pinfield (University of Sheffield)
  - Ellen Verbakel, (TU Delft)
- Anticipate adding one additional member from each sponsoring organization
- Consultation Ongoing

# Feedback & Questions?

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