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Finding IR collaborators on your campus

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Finding IR collaborators on your campus

Eleta Exline, University Library, University of New Hampshire

Introduction
While the success of an institutional repository depends on engaging faculty and students, it can be difficult to capture the attention and imagination of these audiences directly. At the University of New Hampshire we have tapped into an existing network of people who share library objectives: increasing the exposure of university scholarship to new audiences and supporting faculty and students in their research.

Make contacts
Research Center/Institute Communications Coordinators, Program Directors, Website Administrators, and Administrative Assistants are often responsible for managing publications.

Start with a discussion
With a focus on problem solving, take the time explain the “big picture” goals of the IR before discussing the details.

Be flexible
Customizing services, timelines, and options to meet specific needs will build good will and cooperation.

Collaborate on a pilot
Working on a small project is a good way to establish workflow and identify issues or concerns.

Maintain relationships
Be responsive and keep in touch.

- Needs help with**
- Search engine optimization
 - Publishing platform
 - Organizing content
 - Understanding copyrights
 - Access control
- Can help with**
- Publicity
 - Collecting content
 - Describing content
 - Connecting with people
- Key concerns**
- Customizing search
 - Controlling publicity
 - Tracking statistics
 - Site integration

Carsey Institute
IR doubled use of publications in one year
Helps publicize service to faculty contributors.

Sustainability Institute
Needs help with copyright questions
Helps identify other content on sustainability

Institute on Disability
Needs up-to-date publication list integrated with site
Sends regular updates on new publications

NH Agricultural Experiment Station
Needs help managing publications in RefWorks
Organizes and supplies publications metadata

Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership
Needs help publishing online publications lists
Helps collect content and assign subjects

Research Office
Needs IP restricted publishing platform
Provides important contacts with administration

Radio Higher Ed
First podcast series
Hiring intern to work on adding IR content

Undergraduate Honors Program
Needs custom search by department
Works on deposit process with students

Summary: Building mutually beneficial relationships based on shared goals will contribute to the success of your IR!