Increased Accessibility of Datasets and Statistical Resources Through Faculty-library Collaboration

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Overview…

- The Setting
- The Idea and Preparation
- The Problem
- The Solution
- Outcomes
- Future Plans
The Setting

- Private
- Liberal arts
- 2100 students
- 9 Librarians
- Liaisons
- Dataset Management

The Ames Library
Illinois Wesleyan University
The Idea and Preparation

- Informal conversations
- Formal
  - Internal politics
  - Buy-in
  - Collaborative
  - Efficient
- Review sites
- Create rough outline
Who was involved?

- Librarians
- Faculty from:
  - Economics
  - Sociology
  - Political Science
- Library Technology Administrator
- Director of Information Technology (IWU)
Initial Discussions

- Datasets defined
- What do we have?
- What disciplines use the datasets?
- How are the datasets used?
The Problem

- No comprehensive list
- Scattered throughout campus
- Require mediated access
- Inefficient use of time
- Repetition of efforts
- Underutilization of resources
The Solution

- A Dataset Subject Guide
  - Searchable

Better access would result in:
- Resources being better utilized
- Duplication of efforts reduced
- Increased usage
Project Development

- Identify datasets
  - Collect information
  - Structure information
  - Accessibility issues

- Web development
  - Review other sites
  - Design
  - Search capabilities

Data and Statistical Resources Web Page

http://www.iwu.edu/~library/
Outcomes

- Increased Communication
- Mutual Appreciation
- Shared Ownership
- Reduction in Redundancy

- Library as Clearinghouse
- ICPSR OR
Future Plans

- Additional training
- Continued promotion
- Maintenance
- Add new datasets and resources
- Follow-up on evaluation findings
- Better utilize ICPSR membership benefits
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