The Digital Scholarship Center at George Mason University Libraries

WENDY MANN, DIRECTOR, DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP CENTER
ASERL DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP SHOW & TELL - JUNE 6, 2018

DSC.GMU.EDU
Session Outline

Where we started

Digital Scholarship Center planning process

Trends Digital Scholarship Center staff are observing

Plans for the future
About George Mason

Public institution located in Fairfax, VA

Carnegie Classification Highest Research Activity (R1)

Doctoral institution:
  212 degree programs
  129 graduate level, 39 doctoral programs.

Fall 2017 enrollment:
  35,960 students
  69% undergraduates
  31% graduate students
Where We Started: Data Services Group
Where We Started: Data Services Staff

**DATA SERVICES**

3 FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL STAFF
- HEAD, DATA SERVICES GROUP
- GEOSPATIAL RESOURCES LIBRARIAN
- DATA SERVICES RESEARCH CONSULTANT

2 GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS
- GIS, QUALITATIVE

HOURLY STUDENT WAGES/WORK STUDIES (VARYING)
Why Create a Digital Scholarship Center?

We increasingly saw evidence that researchers coming to Data Services needed assistance with issues that exceeded the program’s scope.

We were already engaged in supporting digital scholarship.

We recognized the need to increase the depth and breadth of that support to adjust to campus trends.
## Data Services Usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic-Year</th>
<th>Research Consultations</th>
<th>Instruction Sessions</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>200</td>
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Digital Scholarship Committee
Defining Digital Scholarship Centers

“These [digital scholarship] centers address research, teaching and learning needs across disciplines by providing services for a variety of digital research needs including digital scholarship, data services and management, GIS, digitization, and scholarly communication issues.” (ACRL 2016a)
### Supported Data Services / Digital Scholarship Center Services and Resources

(August 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Digital technologies, tools, and best practices</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital project and research/digital project life cycle matters</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Intellectual property issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>• data management plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• data management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• digital project management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• digital preservation, curation, publication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• archive research data sets and publications*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data description (metadata)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualitative analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data discovery and use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geographical Information systems (GIS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Text and data mining</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geospatial analysis (GIS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data visualization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data access and acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarly communication Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working on a digital humanities project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digitizing objects for research and publication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Archiving of materials with the Mason Repository Services (MARS), which includes Dataverse

**Key**
- **Offer** - the Libraries currently offer the listed service
- **Partially Offer** - the Libraries currently offer some portion of the listed service
- **Don't Offer** - the Libraries currently do not offer the listed service
Digital Scholarship Center

New lab space developed to serve as the geographic focus of digital scholarship activity and tie the program into the library’s other 2nd floor services.

- Special Collections Research Center (SCRC)
- Subject Librarians
- Scholarly Productions at the Research Commons (SP@RC)
- Electronic Theses and Dissertations
Where We Finished (for now): DiSC
The Digital Scholarship Center (DiSC) partners with students, faculty, and staff by providing research support to facilitate digital research and teaching across the university in all disciplines. Contact us at datahelp@gmu.edu to discuss how we can help with your research.

**Data**
- Data discovery & acquisition
- Text & numeric data
- Data cleaning & management
- Quantitative & qualitative analysis

**GIS**
- Geographic Information systems
- Geospatial data
- Mapping
- Spatial analysis

**Digital Humanities**
- Digital tools
- Digital projects
- Data visualization
- Text mining & analysis

**Software & Technology**
- GIS, statistical, qualitative, etc.
- Collaborative workroom
- Scanners for digital projects
- Lab with Windows and Mac workstations

**Research Data Management**
- Data management plans
- Metadata creation
- Long-term data preservation
- Archive & share data in Mason’s Institutional Repositories

**Consultations**
- Consultations by appointment
- Contact us datahelp@gmu.edu
Current DiSC Staffing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATA SERVICES</th>
<th>DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP CENTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL STAFF</td>
<td>3.2 PROFESSIONAL STAFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAD, DATA SERVICES GROUP</td>
<td>DIRECTOR, DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP CENTER</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOSPATIAL RESOURCES LIBRARIAN</td>
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<td>DATA SERVICES RESEARCH CONSULTANT</td>
<td>DATA SERVICES RESEARCH CONSULTANT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS</td>
<td>STEM DATA LIBRARIAN (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS, QUALITATIVE</td>
<td>3.5 GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT WAGES/WORK STUDIES</td>
<td>GIS, QUALITATIVE, DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP, AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES (0.5)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 TO 2 STUDENT WAGES OR WORK STUDIES</td>
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<td></td>
<td>AFFILIATED LIBRARY STAFF</td>
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DiSC Evolution

Collaborating on digital projects
- Faculty recipients of Fenwick Fellow awards
- Arts & Humanities Team collaborating on a digital project using the DiSC space and resources
- Early stages of collaborating on a digital project with special collections and archives

Witnessing an uptick in the number of visitors from the humanities
Opportunities & Challenges

Engaging staff drawn from across the library. Managing and administering this cooperation across library divisions continues to occupy our planning activities.

Interested library staff collaborating with DiSC to become affiliated staff.

Developing a more sustainable, long-term solution beyond the DiSC Affiliates.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to members of the George Mason University Libraries’ Digital Scholarship Center Planning Committee for all of their help!!

Lynn Eaton, Director, Special Collections Research Center
Peggy Griesinger, Metadata & Cataloging Librarian
Debby Kermer, Data Services Research Consultant
Margaret Lam, STEM Data Librarian
Helen McManus, Public Policy, Government & International Affairs Librarian
George Oberle, History Librarian
Jen Stevens, Team Lead, Arts & Humanities
Joy Suh, Geospatial Resources Librarian
Amy Sullivan, Preservation Librarian

Former Team Members:
Sarah Sheehan, Assistant Director for Reference and Instruction, Manhattan College (Health Sciences Librarian)
Jeri Wieringa, PhD Candidate, History, George Mason University (Digital Production Lead)


Bibliography


THANK YOU!