

TRLN IR FORUM

December 11, 2006

In preparation for the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) Institutional Repositories (IR) Forum, a brief questionnaire was distributed to gather select data on IR developments at TRLN institutions. Responses from Duke University (Duke), North Carolina State University (NCSU), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) were received and compiled in September 2006. These responses are summarized in the fact sheet below.

FACT SHEET (Compiled September 2006)

Operational IR?	
Duke	No
NCSU	No
UNC	No

Campus collaborators?	
Duke	A group consisting of many departments (some listed here) met as part of a Mellon funded grant between Duke University and Dartmouth College. The process yielded a final report, but no official planning group currently exists. Participants: OIT (Office of Information Technology), Library Information Systems, Library Digital Projects, University Archives, News & Communications, and Center for Instructional Technology (CIT)
NCSU	There will be an Advisory Committee, consisting of faculty with librarians as staff. It has not yet been designated.
UNC	Pilot IR project is a Provost-sponsored, committee-led effort. Our Digital Curation/ Institutional Repository Committee (DC/IRC) comprised of members from eleven departments, including University Libraries (Systems department, DocSouth, and University Archives), Health Sciences Library, School of Information and Library Science (SILS), Information Technology Services (ITS), the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI), the departments of Romance Languages, Art, and Anthropology, UNC Press, the Kenan-Flagler School of Business, the Odum Institute, and ibiblio.org.

Other advocates and/or sponsors?	
Duke	The Office of the President, the University Provost, and Deans of the various colleges have voiced some level of support for the creation of an IR.
NCSU	The University Library Committee has endorsed the direction.
UNC	DC/IRC and our sister committee, the Scholarly Communication Committee (SCC), are under the guidance of a Steering Committee, chaired by the University Librarian and Associate Provost for University Libraries, and comprised of the SILS Dean, the Law School's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Professor and Curriculum Chair of the Biology department, and the chairs of the DC/IRC and SCC. Operational seed money was provided the Office of the Provost.

Motivators for planning an IR?

Duke	Administrative record keeping, archival records, academic and research records, preservation, and expanded access to library materials.
NCSU	So far, primarily as a unified platform for digital collections, such as technical reports and ETDs (the former are not currently collected if they are digital and the latter are in the ETDdb system). Collection of open access faculty papers is a secondary motivation.
UNC	The call for an IR is motivated by the need to provide services and solutions for the long-term storage and preservation of the University's intellectual digital assets, facilitating access and reuse of such assets. The identification, capture, storage, and dissemination of such assets, including faculty, research, administrative, and student digital materials, will allow compliance with University records schedules, and serve to promote scholarship originating at the University to audiences not yet realized in de-centralized or ad hoc provision and access services.

Planning factors/obstacles?

Duke	Prioritization of the need to establish start-up funding as well as ongoing support costs. Coordination among key participants on the development of programs to support the creation of content. Establishing guidelines for content creation, access and rights management, and metadata standards. Assignment of responsibility for the development of interfaces for depositing content, searching metadata and presentation of material.
NCSU	We encountered developmental obstacles in trying to get DSpace to work in our Oracle environment, which we abandoned when it was clear the DSpace development community wasn't moving very quickly toward Oracle. Another obstacle is competing internal development priorities between the IR and other projects.
UNC	For pilot IR, immediate obstacles: 1) Software (SRB, DSpace and Fedora compatibility); 2) Wetware (staffing model); 3) Collaborators (defining partner roles in pilot IR, anticipating full-scale IR deployment); 4) engaging community members; and 5) Planning beyond pilot.

Software?

Duke	DSpace is in pilot for Electronic Dissertations and Theses (ETD). Fedora in under development for library collections. EPrints is in use at one of the professional schools (Law).
NCSU	DSpace
UNC	We are planning to try a combination of DSpace, Fedora, and the Storage Resource Broker (SRB).

Hardware and location?

Duke	Still to be determined. Dell servers with a Linux OS are in use in development. Sun servers with Solaris are under exploration. Either option will use a combination of internal disks and attached disk arrays for storage. Possible use of Network Attached Storage (NAS) is being considered.
NCSU	It is housed on the library's servers (Sun cluster).
UNC	Two Dell 1850 servers and (attached storage) a Dell AX150, 8TB disk array (for pilot IR), currently housed at RENC1.

Storage Capacity?

Duke	Still to be determined. Dedicated storage is slated to initially range from 200 GB. Existing storage arrays up to 3 TB could be made available if necessary.
NCSU	100G for initial collections
UNC	Four terabytes, two each per dedicated server (for pilot IR).

Staffing?

Duke	Our current plans have not dedicated any staff to the development of an IR. One IT analyst has been assigned to the development of a Fedora implementation. The DSpace pilot includes resources from ISS (.15 FTE) and University Archives (up to 1 FTE).
NCSU	Two positions were added in 2003 to support IR development. One of those was reassigned in Spring 2006. Currently, one programmer (in Digital Library Initiatives) is mostly devoted to the IR, and one librarian (assistant head, DLI) has IR as a major part of his responsibilities. Other librarians contribute through committee work, collection development work, etc.
UNC	Staff from the University Library's systems department are installing and configuring the software and hardware. Current "staff" consists of two SILS Graduate Assistants (an MLIS student and a PhD student). Additionally, the University's TRLN Doctoral Fellow (2005-2007) is assigned to the pilot project. A request for funding two full-time, recurring positions was granted. Currently, we anticipate filling these two positions in early 2007.

Digital asset types?

Duke	ETDs, digital objects created from scanned photographs and other analog items.
NCSU	Technical reports, faculty publications, ETDs, course catalogs.
UNC	For Pilot IR: XML finding aids; simple ETDs; small set of DocSouth files; a sample of websites in the UNC domain in accordance with the University Archives and Records Service schedule; small set of faculty CVs with corresponding publications and other related documentation; subset of materials from the Research Labs of Archaeology; and still to be determined collaboration with the Odum Institute.

Specific disciplinary foci?

Duke	Not at the moment.
NCSU	No.
UNC	No.

IR Services?

Duke	This has yet to be determined.
NCSU	The IR is linked to a bibliography of faculty publications, which we have maintained since 1997. This bibliography strives to be a comprehensive record of faculty publications and is used for reporting purposes by various administrative units on campus. Additional services planned include assistance with loading faculty publications.
UNC	At pilot phase -- search (basic and advanced), versioning, access control, printing, ingest, metadata creation and modification. Service provisions will be modified, following pilot implementation, through informal and formal user/data producer testing for assessing functionalities.

Publicly available IR documentation?

Duke	Not at the moment.
NCSU	No. Additional information from survey receipt: URL for faculty publications database that will eventually provide IR content < http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/repository/search.php >.
UNC	We do not have any publicly available documentation online at this moment. We do have plans to release a website shortly that will provide information on our IR initiatives and serve as an engagement tool for community members. At a later time, we might also choose to make our project wiki available. We have maintained the project wiki since October 2005, one month after the first meeting of the DC/IRC. We also maintain a project management blog for our Infrastructure Planning Group. This blog, though, is closed to members only.

Prepared by Carolyn Hank
TRLN Doctoral Fellow – UNC-CH
hcarolyn@email.unc.edu
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