AAHSL Research Enterprise Task Force

Annual Report
FY 13/14

Task Force Charge 2012 - 2014
Specific tasks:
- *Identify outcomes that AAHSL would like to see from the GIR research summit and share those with GIR, GRAND and other groups as appropriate*
- *Work with GIR on the subsequent activities and outcomes they plan to pursue*
- *Develop information or educational opportunities that keep members abreast of research trends, initiatives, etc. in conjunction with the Program and Education Committee.*
- *Recommend to the board next steps for AAHSL to pursue concerning research initiatives*

Collaboration with GIR

In September 2013, GIR announced the establishment of the GIR Research Technology Work Group which is responsible for informing GIR members and the AAMC on research technology issues, trends and related infrastructures. It also works collaboratively with other AAMC groups, particularly the Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND). This past year the Technology Work Group developed questions around governance, infrastructure, sharing and management to be included in the annual GIR survey. Neil Rambo is a member of the Data Management subgroup.

Institutional Data Management Policies Survey:

The Task Force surveyed AAHSL directors in fall 2013 to identify institutional data management policies. Of the 63 responses 23 completed the survey. Most directors don't know if their institution has data management policies indicating that the institutions either haven't addressed the issue or don't know what to do. The Task Force sent a summary of the survey results to the GIR Research Technology Work Group.

As a next step the Task Force discussed surveying AAHSL directors in the next year about library activities to support data management.

Educational Activities

The Task Force organized a series of Research Data Management webinars in partnership with the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region.

The first three webinars focused on the NLM/NIH Informationist Administrative Supplement grant awards. Between 20 - 26 individuals registered for each session though each registrant could have included multiple people from the institution. Additionally the webinars were archived for later viewing.
- October 11 - Presentations by U of Massachusetts, NYU and Indiana University
- October 13th – Perspectives from library directors at institutions who received awards - NYU and U of Massachusetts
- October 25th – Presentations by NYU, Rochester and UCLA

The fourth webinar featured speakers from the MLA 2013 meeting talking about data sharing/management projects at their institutions.
- March 26, 2014 – Presentations by NYU, University of Florida and UCSF

Members found the sessions useful in helping to develop local strategies and to be aware of library activities and resources for data management. We received recognition from NLM for assisting them in support for the Informationist program.

LibGuide

The Task Force has developed a LibGuide on Research Data Management and will add it to the Resource section of the AAHSL website. The LibGuide will assist members in identifying resources to support data management.

Fellowship Training Program in Data Management

The Task Force is developing a proposal to present to the Board to create an AAHSL Fellowship in Data Management as a workforce development opportunity to meet new requirements from funders and publishers. This Fellowship would be complimentary to the CLIR Fellowship program and would be open to librarians or others who are interested in a career in data management. Individuals selected for the program would spend 1-2 years at a host institution developing strategies to support data management/data curation mandates and intiatives.   For this discussion we invited NLM to join us and David Gillikin was identified as the representative from NLM.

Recommendations to AAHSL

The Task Force is charged with developing recommendations to the Board on future steps with this area. The Task Force recommends the following:
- The Board should form a permanent committee to develop strategies to support data management including the identification of resources and educational programs for members.
- The newly formed committee should seek to maintain close ties with GIR and its work in data management.
- The membership of the committee should be expanded and include a representative from NLM
- AAHSL should explore the concept of a Fellowship Training Program in Data Management as outlined by the Task Force.

The Task Force notes that College and Research Libraries News cites data management as one of the top trends in academic libraries. Additionally, this topic is of interest to AAMC, and data management policies are increasingly mandated by funding agencies and publishers.   There are potential new roles for academic health sciences libraries and librarians in data management, and data curation. AAHSL should continue to support this new initiative.

Members:

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