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A Good SCAM for Building Connections: Scholarly Communications Activity Mapping

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Our Goal: Identify opportunities to meet needs and support faculty in their research & scholarly activity.

Our Project: Build & pilot a framework for mapping scholarly activities across the university.

Background
The “SCAM” is modeled after successful instruction plans and prompted by greater integration of scholarly communications work by liaison librarians. Liaisons’ awareness of faculty needs enabled previous scholarly communications success stories.

Liaison librarians are gathering information that can strengthen library connections with faculty, identify unmet needs, and inform instruction and collection development.

Models
● Instruction plans
● Position descriptions
● ISC Assessment Instrument
● Research on faculty practices

Challenges
● Flexibility vs. simplicity
● Time & workload
● Clarifying goals

Implementing the SCAM
Several liaison librarians used the tool to map one of their departments’ scholarly activity.

Info Sources
● Discussions with department heads and faculty
● University Grant Support
● Department websites
● Database searches

Reflection & Revisions
● Scalability is a challenge: start small and set realistic goals
● Create a “living document”
● Workload issues

Next Steps
● Liaison librarian buy-in
● Meet identified needs
● Iterative development

Developing the Map
Fact-finding
What factors shape faculty scholarly practices? Where do they publish, and why?

Exploration
How are faculty creating and sharing scholarly work right now? Are they using existing open access services?

Reflection
How can we use this knowledge to build relationships, improve services, and identify other opportunities?