

Libraries Forum Meeting October 15, 2012 2:00pm Scott Library	
Agenda Item	Notes
<p>Strategic Research Plan Overview (R. Haché) Discussion facilitated by Celia Haig-Brown (presented SRP overview slides)</p>	<p>Introduction provided by C. Archer, University Librarian. VPRI R. Haché presented a series of slides outlining the institutional context, what the plan will cover as it presents the story of York research, and why we need to develop a new research plan for York. Underscored the need for university-wide feedback as integral to the development of the Strategic Research Plan.</p> <p>Concluded presentation by asking Libraries Forum members for their specific feedback on what they'd like to see in the SRP from their perspective.</p> <p>C. Davidson Associate University Librarian made additional comments on the importance of the SRP process, encouraged members to explore the SRP website, archived meeting notes from previous consultation sessions, as well as upcoming consultation dates.</p> <p><u>Comments & Clarifications from the Faculty of Fine Arts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -C. Davidson gave overview of York University Libraries' own Strategic Plan: New Horizons for the Digital Age 2012-2015, areas that reflect York's institutional focus on research. Specifically in resonating in Themes III and IV. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Theme IV - Advance York's Research Culture and Reputation - emphasizes librarians' dual contributions to research - both carrying out practice-based research (rooted across a variety of disciplines) as well as providing leadership and infrastructure for evolving data-driven methodologies. -Contribution to community-engaged scholarship on a number of levels, viewed through a "digital media" lens, there are ample examples of the Libraries' strategic positioning of both human resources and infrastructure that ensure both leadership and research partnerships -Theme III- Steward York's Research Assets – Libraries focusing on the active selection, storage, presentation and sharing of its collections and expanding mandate to preserve the record of knowledge to embrace digital forms as well as print. Ensuring that research outputs created by the faculty and students and York's collections be preserved -Emphasized the need for resourcing -Stressed the need to acknowledge and identify the existing synergies across Faculties- highlighted the communication gap that exists -Stressed need for infrastructure to support digital imaging technology in teaching and research– lack of coordinating strategy/system for imaging, working with digital assets -Suggested a digital assets center where support would be available when not available in individual Faculties -Suggested that polling could be done to assess what needs are. -Need to help to advance projects, suggested a data management infrastructure be created -Shared visions which lead to collaborations need funding support -It is a matter of sharing the knowledge and expertise or over time and developing new expertise -Clarified that we need to support research across the university, however some support will be focused more strategically, and identify those initiatives that are more pressing

- Increasingly dealing with communication and infrastructure gap – need to find avenue to identify projects across Faculties – areas like imaging projects where the Library could contribute to research being done, perhaps mobilize discussion through Research Officers
- need to communicate existing library supports for researchers
- Expressed importance of including costs related to libraries, archives and digital imaging in research funding applications.
- Sought clarification on the relationship around themes and researchers, how researchers may see themselves within the themes within the Plan
- Encouraged the Plan to express some aspirations as to where we see ourselves focusing and developing research going forward
- Expressed concern regarding gaps in access for the broader York community, and what research is available to them
- While committed to open access, need for funding to support York's 30 journals as sites of dissemination results
- Reiterated that communication gap in identifying what research is happening across Faculties
- Highlighted added pressures from Ottawa regarding cuts to Archives Canada, will be leaning on libraries more and more to support the gap
- Expressed concern about shortage of resources available to train students
- Sought clarification whether Plan will access research outcomes or impacts through measurements, as there are disciplinary sensitivities around how measures are defined and reported i.e: impact factor can be taken out of context
- Emphasized need to define research impact in ways that recognizes a diversity of output
- determine where York fits in the national story of research impact
- do not lose sight of the importance of existing journal-based impact metrics -
- Expressed concern around research impact and the metrics used to measure- relying on research income measures is problematic and doesn't capture all types of research
- Stressed that better planning and training for creation and use of digital infrastructure is needed, as more are becoming involved in collaborations
- Reiterated need for central body coordinating strategy/system for working with digital assets, but perhaps not Libraries that would necessarily lead
- Reiterated that supports across the university are needed to provide for and share expertise
- recognition that library is the site of cultural stewardship for Canada
- Cautioned that the Digital Futures theme may not be inclusive, look to broaden umbrella to include digital humanities and other Faculties
- Sought clarification on what types of comments are arising regarding teaching and learning during the consultations
- C. Davidson concluded discussion and noted that the Libraries will continue to develop their SRP feedback and send to R. Haché

Emphasized opportunities for further input and consultation schedule: available on SRP website at: <http://srp.info.yorku.ca>