Stanford University Libraries/ Academic Information Resources

Digital Library Program

Digital Library Program

- Principles and objectives
- Organization
- Expanded program
- Transition to program
- What we have learned

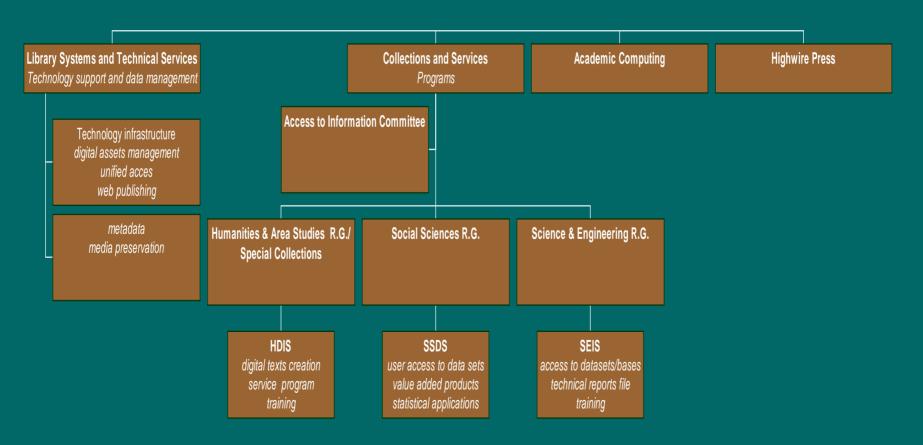
Principles and Objectives

- Apply digital solutions to information problems
- Pioneer information solutions
- Integrate programmatic and physical/structural aspects of service delivery

Principles and Objectives (2)

- Promote best practices by example
- Raise expectations for quality of digital information services
- Promote systematic use of web in professional, scholarly, research communications

Stanford University Libraries & Academic Information Resources Digital Library Program



Organization

- Resource Groups
 - Humanities and Area Studies
 - Social Sciences
 - Science and Engineering

Corresponding Digital Library Units

- Humanities Digital Information Service (HDIS)
- Social Sciences Data Service (SSDS)
- Science and Engineering Information Service (SEIS)

HDIS-- Humanities Digital Information Service

- Creation of digital text library
- Preparation of digital text files
- Delivery and analysis of digital texts
- Staffing of service program
- Training library staff
- Processing and management of digital resources

SSDS--Social Sciences Data Service

- Direct user access to datasets
- Value-added data products for important datasets
- Increase codebook accessibility
- Help users find the right datasets
- Statistical applications consulting
- Meet future data needs

SEIS-- Science and Engineering Information Service

- Direct user access to
 - datasets
 - databases
 - full text books and journals
- Help in accessing information
- Training and instruction
- Technical reports file

A2I--Access to Information Committee

- Acquisition of full range of digital products
- Methods of access and delivery of digital content
 - Prices
 - Legal & access terms
 - Developing technologies
 - Functionality
 - Archival issues
 - Procedures and operation
 - Usage

Other components and players

- Library Systems
 - Library wide expertise
 - Systems and networks
- Technical Services
 - Preservation
 - Metadata
- Academic Computing
- Information Technology Systems and Services

Transitioning to program

- Program Officer
- Program coordination across Resource Groups
- Technology management and coordination across units
- Access management and coordination across units

Digital Library Program Officer

- Works with
 - Digital library units
 - Library Systems
 - Metadata managers
 - Preservation
 - Academic Computing
 - Other SUL/AIR digital programs

What we have learned in organization and management

- Ownership is crucial
 - Generates enthusiasm
 - Dedication and commitment to results
 - Closest to expertise
 - To service delivery
 - To clientele

Decentralized program

- Many different skill-sets required
- Most efficient if used where most needed
 - Classical curatorial grasp
 - IT infrastructure management of storage, access, migration
 - Specialized software competency
 - Production staff for digitizing
 - Staff for metadata management

Experimentation must be encouraged

- In all units
- Prototyping as routine
- Responsiveness to opportunity

But coordination is essential

What we have confirmed

- Both/and dilemma
 - Extension, not replacement of library services
 - Need more staff, not just different
 - Interaction with live human experts required
 - Library functions now more complex
 - Reference now like software application consulting/decoding/interpreting
 - ☐ Preservation: less stable, more varied
- Digital library program requires a phased approach