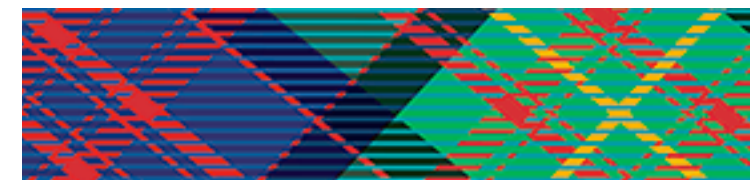


Data Management from the Outsider's Perspective:

Building a Data Management Team in a Small University Library

An Overview



Carnegie Mellon University is known internationally for its research output, receiving over **\$400 million in research funding** annually. The University's strategic plan has made research data management an institutional priority.

In 2013, CMU's libraries still had no research data management staff, but **quickly assembled a team by leveraging existing expertise.**



How to Win Friends and Influence People



Internal Training

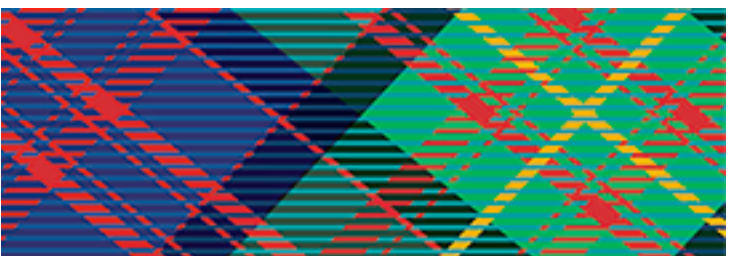
- Cross-training
- Systems-training
- Faculty outreach

External Training

- Professional conferences and workshops
- Data management classes
- Professional webinars
- Metadata seminars
- Networking with others in data management



Potential Issues with Non-Specialists



Incorporating other library roles into a data management team can bring in important and diverse perspectives, but it can also create complications. **Over the course of our collaboration, the group has run into some of the following challenges:**

- Diverse specializations use the same vocabularies differently
- Various responsibilities in the library can make coordination difficult
- Which needs take first priority? Research? Scholarly communications? Long-term preservation?
- Too large of a team can make it difficult to make decisions.

Lessons Learned



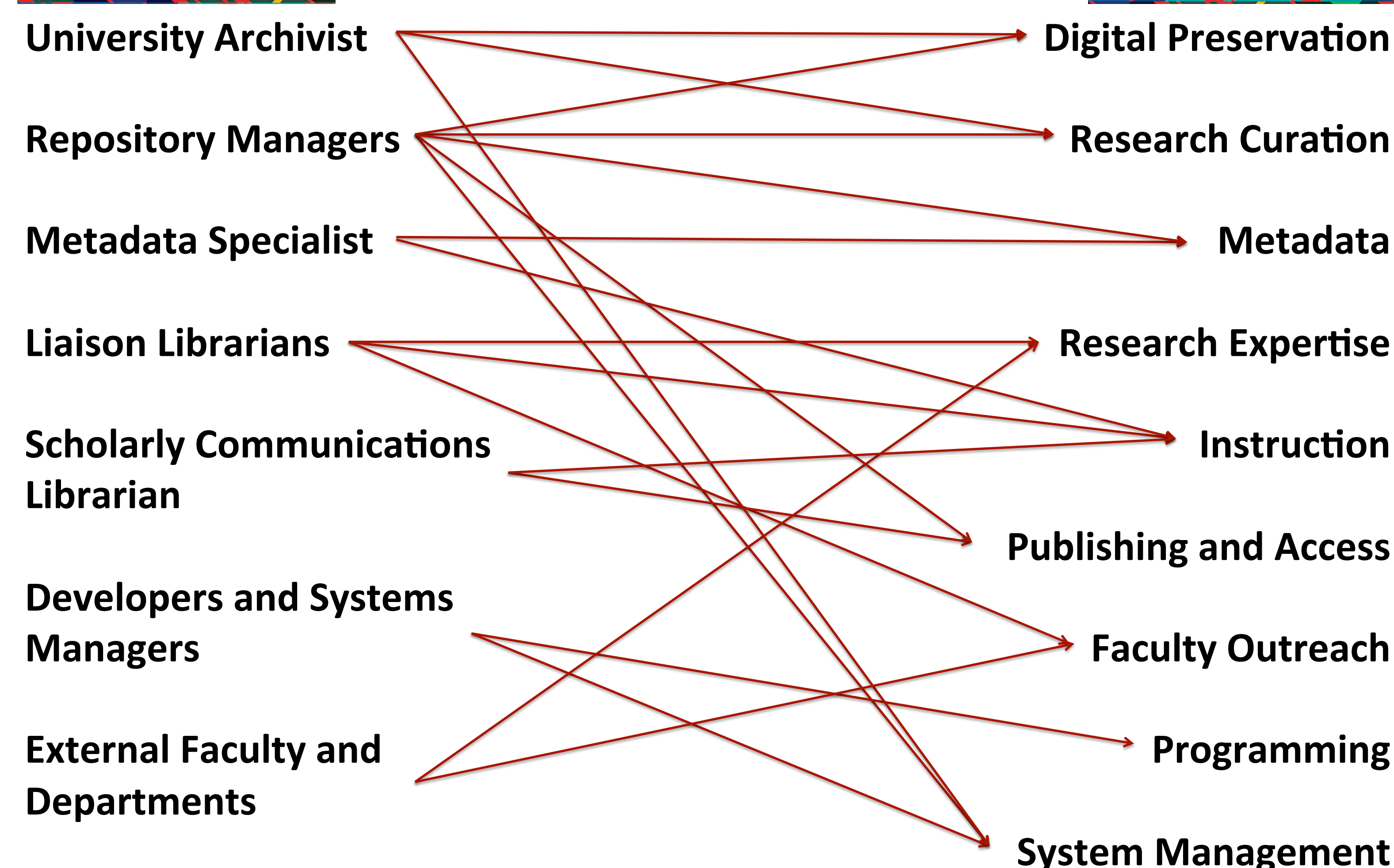
Creating a data management team is only the first step. The bigger challenge is keeping that team functional. Since its formation in 2013, the team has discovered that **there are several areas needed to keep non-specialists involved:**

- Team members need to understand data management as well as other members' perspectives.
- Team specialists need to respect colleagues' expertise and include them in the decision-making process
- The policy and the product are equally important
- True collaboration is the key to help team members feel ownership over the program
- The committee should be formalized and mandated by the library

...However, a committee still needs a strong leader with research data management expertise.



Who Does What?



ROLES

SKILLS