

Enhancing Access to Research Databases

Libraries of all sizes are struggling with the cost of maintaining electronic database subscriptions. Costs have risen dramatically, and many libraries are in the position of dealing with a sole-source situation. Library staff charged with negotiating database licenses often have no frame of reference with regard to fair pricing, and often are not aware of all of their rights with regard to contract negotiations.

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New York Statewide Service Hub for Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)

Coordinated services around access to digital collections created and hosted by libraries, archives, and cultural heritage institutions throughout the state is a high priority, including working with institutions to contribute digital content to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Collectively, the New York 3Rs regional councils have played a key role in providing access to digital collections throughout the state and could serve as the NY Service Hub for DPLA, providing the necessary personnel and technological infrastructure.

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Library as Publisher

Whether it is memoirs, family histories, children's stories, scrapbooks, or faculty research – the web has made it easier for people to create and share content. To improve the quality of the content produced and thus improve its value to both the intended audience and our communities, creators need guidance. They turn to libraries for help with research, editing, proof reading, design and much more.

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Communications Clearinghouse

A statewide communications policy and process is critical to identify ongoing and new, emerging and innovative projects, initiatives and services in libraries and archives. The working group will develop this "clearinghouse" which will include: project descriptions, goals, costs, budgets, intended audience, project manager contact information, funding source, periodic project updates, and how and if other interested organizations can "plug into" the project.

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Library Assessment and Return on Investment

How are library services connected to patron needs and student outcomes? This is important at every level of school and academic library, as well public libraries, whose mission is to create lifelong learners and researchers. Assessment and outcomes also tie into demonstrating the value of the library and return on investment (ROI).

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Staffing Innovations

Turnover rate means that libraries are constantly training, retraining, and exchanging staff. These staff members need to develop and deploy new technologies to meet the changing expectations of users. A working group will investigate programs on training and that encourage shared staffing and services.

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NY 3Rs Identifies Six I2NY Priorities and Working Groups

Information Infrastructure for New York State (I2NY) is an initiative sponsored and coordinated by the NY 3Rs Association Inc. (NY3Rs). Development included several opportunities for input and participation by leaders in the library and archive environments in the State.

Six priorities were named in the Final Report, "I2NY: Envisioning an Information Infrastructure for New York State" (May 2013, complete report at link below). Coordination and facilitation of each priority will be handled by the NY 3R Councils, but continued engagement by members of the library community will be critical to each initiative. Working groups have been formed which will address each of these issues.

For more information, visit ny3rs.org/i2ny