

2014

## Lisa A. Palmer Profile

Follow this and additional works at: <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

(2017) "Lisa A. Palmer Profile," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 26: Iss. 2, Article 23.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.6708>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact [epubs@purdue.edu](mailto:epubs@purdue.edu) for additional information.

work, and integrates the repository with existing services — a win-win for the department, the library, and the institution.

**Campus-based Publishing Support** — Medical libraries have joined other academic libraries in exploring campus-based publishing, with institutional repositories being utilized for the hosting and publication of electronic journals. Repository administrators are gaining experience with all aspects of the publishing process, including obtaining ISSNs, assigning digital object identifiers (DOIs), applying for MEDLINE indexing in **PubMed**, and incorporating altmetrics into journal displays. Content unique to the health sciences includes open access journals that promote “trainee” scholarship and research by medical students, residents, and fellows, and research briefs describing mental health research in a user-friendly way for all readers.

**Grant Support** — Institutional repositories can be an important tool for securing grants and demonstrating impact for publicly funded projects. Through the dissemination of scientific meeting abstracts and posters, repositories provide exposure to pilot studies and groundbreaking research and supply authors and their institutions with data on the public engagement and impact of research for funding organizations and other stakeholders.

About 60 academic health sciences libraries support institutions that are part of the **NIH-sponsored Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA)** program. The goals of this program are to accelerate the translation of laboratory discoveries into treatments for patients, to engage communities in clinical research efforts, and to train a new generation of clinical and translational researchers. Institutional repositories are being used by some program members to capture community scholarship, disseminate research results, and set up collections of papers resulting from research funded by the grant. The institutional repository helps to increase the visibility of the **CTSA** work and provides administrators with usage statistics for grant progress and assessment reports.

**Data Sharing** — Institutional repositories are a strong infrastructure component of a research data management and data sharing strategy, as they are designed to easily store data files that support scholarly publications. Student theses and dissertations present an excellent opportunity for libraries with existing repositories to pilot or introduce services around research data. Theses and dissertations are rich in content that is already flowing into the repository, and students may be receptive to sharing supplemental data files that otherwise might not be accessible to readers of the dissertation.

In February 2013 the **President’s Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)** announced that all federal agencies with research budgets larger than \$100 million would be expected to follow the **NIH’s** lead by providing public access to publicly-funded research —

## against the grain people profile

### Lisa A. Palmer

**BORN AND LIVED:** I grew up in Rhode Island and have lived in Massachusetts most of my adult life.

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES:** I spent the earlier part of my career as a corporate librarian and cataloger for **Digital Equipment Corporation, Compaq Computer Corporation, and Hewlett-Packard**. I started my position at **UMass Medical School** in 2003 as a cataloger and have been the Institutional Repository Librarian since 2009.

**FAMILY:** I share my life with my husband **Brad**, two teenage boys, and two cats.

**IN MY SPARE TIME:** Reading, alternative music, running, hiking, travel, learning to play piano.

**HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS:** I think open access will be the norm, with at least half of all research articles freely available online immediately. Open research data will become a reality to some extent rather than just a hope. Academic libraries will need to continue to innovate and prioritize services in an increasingly complex environment with tight budgets. Health sciences librarians will work more closely with faculty and researchers as research partners and collaborators. 🌱



### Barriers and Challenges

There is no shortage of articles in the library literature detailing the many barriers and challenges for populating and growing institutional repositories. Some of these barriers are more critical for medical libraries: content recruitment; redundancy; and staffing, sustainability, and scalability.

**Content Recruitment** — It is difficult to grow a repository when researchers lack the motivation to deposit, overestimate the time and effort required, are overwhelmed by the complexity of copyright issues, or are not aware of the services available. These obstacles are heightened in the academic health sciences environment where many researchers are also teaching faculty, administrators, and practicing clinicians. A recent report from **Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR)** outlines a variety of successful and sustainable practices for populating repositories.<sup>3</sup> Medical institutional repositories, like those in academic libraries, have reduced barriers by providing services such as mediated deposit, copyright consultation, embargo periods, and systematic harvesting from databases. Other strategies to increase participation include adding value with customized repository services responsive to researcher needs, leveraging existing relationships that the library director and other librarians have with campus departments, offering to do pilot projects that build trust, and focusing on those individuals and groups that are receptive to these services.

*continued on page 28*

both publications and research data — within one year. This development represented years of work by librarians and other advocates, and was overwhelmingly supported by the medical library community. In response to the **OSTP** directive, the **Association of American Universities**, the **Association of Research Libraries**, and the **Association of Public and Land-grant Universities** collaborated to propose a system of cross-institutional digital repositories called the **SHARED Access Research Ecosystem (SHARE)**. **SHARE’s** working groups are now in place. **SHARE** is clearly a major opportunity for all institutional repositories.

**Partnerships and Collaboration** — These examples of repository services demonstrate how an institutional repository serves as a critical tool to help health sciences libraries cultivate new partnerships and roles, enhance existing relationships, and collaborate with departments at their institutions. Traditional library liaison connections can be leveraged to advocate for using the institutional repository for archiving and disseminating faculty research output. In many cases departments are enthusiastic and pleased to be able to piggyback on an existing platform in use at the medical school to save time and money.

A top trend in academic librarianship is the concept of the “embedded librarian” or “informationist,” which is a librarian being physically available or embedded within academic departments or on research teams. Repository administrators, in view of the widespread services they provide on campus, might consider themselves “virtually embedded” across the entire institution!