MIRL 2026 Symposium

Event Program

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MIRL 2026 Symposium

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MIRL 2026 Symposium

The MIRL Planning Committee is excited to welcome you to the sixth annual MIRL Symposium!

We look forward to seeing you *both* days at this year's MIRL Symposium!

Our first ever two-day event will feature two keynote presentations and 22 talks, all focusing on topics relevant to institutional repository management, curation, and promotion in a health sciences or medical environment. Each day's schedule, keynote speaker bios, and individual session info is available within this event program. All times listed are in EST.

The MIRL Symposium is free to attend and open to all.

Thank you for joining us!

The MIRL Planning Committee

Lisa Buda	*Rochester Regional Health*
Jennifer Deal	*Advocate Health - Midwest*
Anthony Dellureficio	*Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*
Sara Hoover	*George Washington University Libraries & Academic Innovation*
Ramune Kubilius	*Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Galter Library*
Steven Moore	*Sladen Library, Henry Ford Health*
Pam Pierce	*Oregon Health & Science University*
Brittany Smith	*Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University*
Michael Upshall	*Charleston Briefings*

MIRL 2026 Symposium

2026 MIRL Planning Committee



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MIRL 2026 Symposium

MIRL Symposium Code of Conduct

Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries (MIRL) is committed to providing a positive and harassment-free environment for all symposium participants and attendees. MIRL aims to foster diverse, equitable, and inclusive communities of practice and all attendees, speakers, and participants must abide by the code of conduct outlined here.

All communication should be appropriate for a professional audience that includes persons of diverse backgrounds. Verbal comments that reinforce social structures of domination related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, national or regional origin, body size, race, age, religion (or lack thereof), or other marginalized characteristics are inappropriate. Be kind and respectful to others and do not insult or put down other attendees. Be careful in the words that you choose and please remember that sexist, racist, and other exclusionary jokes are not appropriate for MIRL. We ask that participants use discretion in regards to photography, recordings, and publicly sharing the ideas of others.

If a participant engages in harassing behavior, the MIRL planning group may take any action it deems appropriate, including warning the offender or expulsion from the event. If you are being harassed, witness another participant being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a planning group member immediately.

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Thursday November 19, 2026

Welcome ..... 1pm EST

Keynote Presentation 1:05pm

Staying Afloat in Uncharted Waters: Managing an Institutional Repository without a Manager
Sally Gore *Lamar Soutter Library, UMass Chan Medical School*

Session One: Go With the Workflow 2pm

Session Two: Tada! Data 3:30pm

Friday November 20, 2026

Welcome ..... 1pm EST

Keynote Presentation 1:05pm

IR Fundamentals and the Modern Research Ecosystem
Josh Cromwell *The University of Southern Mississippi*

Session Three: Foundations of MIRL 2pm

Session Four: Makeover Time 3:10pm

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Thursday November 19, 2026

Welcome	**1pm EST**
Keynote Presentation: **Staying Afloat in Uncharted Waters: Managing an Institutional Repository without a Manager** **Sally Gore** *UMass Chan Medical School*	**1:05pm**
Session One: Go With the Workflow	**2pm**
Q&A	**3:10pm**
Break	**3:20pm**
Session Two: Tada! Data	**3:30pm**
Q&A	**4:10pm**
Closing Remarks	**4:20pm**

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Friday November 20, 2026

Welcome	**1pm EST**
Keynote Presentation: IR Fundamentals and the Modern Research Ecosystem **Josh Cromwell** *The University of Southern Mississippi*	**1:05pm**
Session Three: Foundations of MIRL	**2pm**
Q&A	**2:50pm**
Break	**3:00pm**
Session Four: Makeover Time	**3:10pm**
Q&A	**4:10pm**
Closing Remarks	**4:20pm**

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Thursday November 19, 2026



Keynote Presentation:
Staying Afloat in Uncharted Waters: Managing an Institutional Repository without a Manager

Sally Gore
Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

eScholarship@UMassChan has been a most valued and valuable resource for the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School for many years, yet its fate has been tested as the university continues to address unprecedented budget challenges these past several years. The situation hit a peak - or better put, a bottom - when our long-time repository manager retired and her position was eliminated. This keynote presentation will focus on how the remaining staff manage to keep the repository going despite the challenges AND lessons on being prepared for an unknown and unexpected future.

Sally Gore, MS, MS LIS, FMLA, is the manager of Research and Scholarly Communication Services for the Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Sally also serves as the Associate Editor of the Journal of eScience Librarianship.

Sally has held leadership positions in Massachusetts (MAHSLIN), New England (NAHSL), and national (MLA) medical and health sciences library organizations. She served on the Board of Directors of the Medical Library Association (MLA) from 2019-2022 and was elected a Fellow of the Medical Library Association in 2025.

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Friday November 20, 2026



Keynote Presentation:
IR Fundamentals and the Modern Research Ecosystem

Josh Cromwell
The University of Southern Mississippi

Josh C. Cromwell is the scholarly communications manager at The University of Southern Mississippi. He has worked with Aquila, the university's institutional repository, since its launch in January 2012, and has been its administrator since July 2013. He published the edited volume *Rethinking Institutional Repositories* (2024) with ACRL, and he developed and co-teaches an institutional repositories course for ALA Core. He is also the lead organizer of the Southern Miss Institutional Repository Conference, which attracts IR managers, staff, and other librarians from across the USA.



In this interview with **Michael Upshall**, Josh will address topics such as the purpose of institutional repositories; what it's like to teach a course on IRs; how to stay current as an IR manager; and reflections on working with groups including SMIRC, Charleston Briefings, COAR, and more.

MIRL Planning Committee Member **Michael Upshall** is editor of the Charleston Briefings, a series of OA books on scholarly communication, and guest editor of its Against the Grain Podcast.

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Thursday November 19, 2026

Session One: Go With the Workflow (2pm - 3:20pm)

Point of Need Outreach: CV and Residency Application Support as a Trojan Horse for IR Deposits
Hannah J. Craven, Renee K. Wanke & Brandon T. Pieczko
Ruth Lilly Medical Library, Indiana University School of Medicine

We Should Have That: Filling in Gaps on a Digitized Historical Publication
A'Llyn Ettien
Boston University Alumni Medical Library

Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Institutional Repositories: Opportunities and Practical Considerations for Health Sciences Libraries in Resource-Constrained Settings
Dr. Fatimah Jibril Abduldayan
Nigeria Maritime University
Martha Tizhe
Federal University of Technology, Minna

LLM Generated Disciplines for a Digital Commons Repository
Matthew Folse
LSU Health Sciences Center - New Orleans

Cut the Copy/Paste: AI-Assisted Coding for Metadata Transformation in an Institutional Repository
Laura Riley
University of Colorado Anschutz, Strauss Health Sciences Library

From Raw Data to Refined Insight: Forging Scholarly Output Connections in the Library
Dianne Johnson & Mego Franks
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Research Beyond Publications: Preserving and Sharing Health Research Posters
Madeleine Beer & Mercer Kim
Monash Health

Session Two: Tada! Data (3:30pm - 4:20pm)

Data Management and Sharing Plans in the IR Landscape, Part 1: Maximizing the value of these institutional assets
Anthony Dellureficio
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Data Management and Sharing Plans in the IR Landscape, Part 2: Developing a DMSP-specific metadata schema
Isha Shadale
Kent State University (NCDS Data Intern – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center)
Brendan O'Hagen
Pratt Institute
Erika Vásquez
Texas Woman's University

Dear IRB: A Field Guide for Data Librarians
Molly Hirst
University of Michigan
Rachel Woodbrook
University of Minnesota

From Data Catalog to Institutional Repository: Evolving a Homegrown Repository Through Library Leadership and Cross-Collaboration
Nicole Bentinganan
Children's National Hospital

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We Should Have That: Filling in Gaps on a Digitized Historical Publication
A'Llyn Ettien *Boston University*

Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Institutional Repositories: Opportunities and Practical Considerations for Health Sciences Libraries in Resource-Constrained Settings
Dr. Fatimah Jibril Abduldayan *Nigeria Maritime University*
Martha Tizhe *Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria*

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Moderator: Lisa Buda

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Session Three: Foundations of MIRL (2pm - 3pm)

Growing an Institutional Repository: Challenges, Lessons, and Opportunities
Angela McKee & Misti Thorton
University of Mississippi Medical Center
Marisela Madrigal
Marquette University

TRUST Principles for IRs
Meredith Goins
World Data System

Bridging (Medicine OR Dentistry) AND Open Expert Search Strategies
Ellen Thieme & Kelly O'Brien
American Dental Association

The School Corner's Virtual Field Trips – The Power of Shared Experiences Through a Digital Repository
Amy Six-Means, Talia Fayson, Chris Stork & Claire Mcloughlin
Children's Health

Implementing Digital Repository Outreach for Capstone-Based Health Sciences Programs
Will White
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center

Session Four: Makeover Time (3:10pm - 4:20pm)

Making Nursing Scholarship Visible: Institutional Repository Support of Magnet Recertification
Amanda Steinvall
Providence Health & Services

Aligning the Library Website and Institutional Repository Experience: Redesign, Implement and Engage
Alice Sherwood
Texas Medical Center Library

Three Years Post-Migration: What Happened to Self-Submit in an Institutional Repository
Pamela Pierce
Oregon Health & Science University

Rebranding a 16-Year-Old IR: A Case Study
Michelle Shannon
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

No Repository, No Problem: Building a Medical Library Archive Through a Campus Portal
Alexia Riggs & Blair Hollender
Alice L. Walton School of Medicine

Supermode (You Better Workflows): A Scholarly Activity Tracking Walkthrough
Steven Moore
Sladen Library, Henry Ford Health

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Friday November 20, 2026

Session Three: Foundations of MIRL (2 - 3pm)
Moderator: Jennifer Deal

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Abstracts

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session One: Go With the Workflow (2 - 3:20pm)

Point of Need Outreach: CV and Residency Application Support as a Trojan Horse for IR Deposits

Hannah J. Craven, Renee K. Wanke & Brandon T. Pieczko
Ruth Lilly Medical Library, Indiana University School of Medicine

A medical library at a large medical school has grown support over the last few years for medical students creating curriculum vitae and applying to residency programs. The Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) is the most common application used by medical students and includes a Scholarly Works section where applicants can highlight and link to their scholarly research products. Meeting the students at this point of need has been a successful way to encourage them to cultivate a scholarly online presence early in their career. While supporting students with FAQs about this section of the application, the authors also promoted the option of uploading their past works to the university's IR. With the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) STEP 1 exam changing to pass/fail in 2022, having a stable URL for research products offers a way for medical students to stand out during the residency application process. Librarians created support culminating in synchronous workshops (for CVs or for ERAS) and an accompanying LibGuide (Curating Your Scholarly Online Presence). While having a URL for items on a CV or in ERAS is optional, many students take the time to deposit items. Over the last 6 years, we have seen an average increase of over 140% in submissions to relevant collections. Challenges, including ADA Title II compliance and discipline-specific variations in the residency application process, and future directions will also be addressed.

We Should Have That: Filling in Gaps on a Digitized Historical Publication

A'Llyn Ettien *Boston University Alumni Medical Library*

OpenBU is Boston University's institutional repository. Staff at BU Alumni Medical Library worked extensively with OpenBU coordinators to create and manage medical library collections within the main IR, specifically focused on digitized historical publications from the medical campus. One such publication was 'The Medical Student,' a journal showcasing the research of students at Boston University School of Medicine, published in the late 19th-early 20th century. In this case, Alumni Medical Library scanned available issues as part of our initial archival digitization project with OpenBU, but realized there were significant gaps in our holdings of this highly specific item. By reaching out to other holders of the title, we were able to obtain copies of nearly all known issues. We were thus able to provide online access through BU's IR to a unique piece of Boston's medical history.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session One: Go With the Workflow (2 - 3:20pm)

Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Institutional Repositories: Opportunities and Practical Considerations for Health Sciences Libraries in Resource-Constrained Settings

Dr. Fatimah Jibril Abduldayan *Nigeria Maritime University*
Martha Tizhe *Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria*

This lightning talk examines practical opportunities for the responsible application of AI in institutional repository workflows, with particular attention to health sciences and other research-intensive environments with limited resources. Drawing on library and information science practice and emerging experiences with AI-supported library services, the presentation proposes a human-in-the-loop approach in which AI assists repository professionals rather than replacing professional judgement. It will highlight potential low-cost applications, areas requiring caution, and practical principles that libraries can consider when introducing AI into repository activities.

The presentation will conclude with a simple framework for evaluating AI applications according to usefulness, accuracy, risk, privacy, human oversight and sustainability. The aim is to provide repository practitioners with practical considerations for exploring AI while maintaining the quality, trustworthiness and responsible stewardship of institutional research outputs.

LLM Generated Disciplines for a Digital Commons Repository

Matthew Folse *LSU Health Sciences Center - New Orleans*

Background: LSU, in 2025, entered an agreement with Microsoft to have an institutional version of their generative artificial intelligence chatbot, Copilot. LSU's Internal Repository requires careful metadata assignation and search engine optimization to make records as discoverable as possible. The combination of access to an AI tool, the struggle of non-STEM background librarians and support staff, led a Scholarly Communications Librarian to 'prompt engineering' to improve the workflow. *Description*: A librarian uses Microsoft CoPilot to analyze abstract, title, and keywords of a scholarly published work and assign the most appropriate disciplines according to Digital Commons' taxonomy. A 2024 post in a working group of other Digital Commons users suggested an AI prompt to assign disciplines according to the taxonomy provided to Digital Commons users and served as the basis and inspiration of this project. The primary focus is on the craft of designing an effective prompt to deliver effective outcomes with an AI tool on assigning appropriate metadata. The prompt itself has greatly shifted in scope, size, and specificity of guardrails over time and the increase in reliable outcomes. *Conclusion*: The human librarian can provide important guidance, guardrails, and constraints to a generative AI to improve workflow processes while minimizing the negatives of generative artificial intelligence such as lack of semantically appropriate analysis or hallucinations. The generative AI can access domain knowledge on appropriate subject matter to bridge the knowledge gap a librarian may lack in STEM knowledge, research, and other factors of interacting with scholarly published work.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session One: Go With the Workflow (2 - 3:20pm)

Cut the Copy/Paste: AI-Assisted Coding for Metadata Transformation in an Institutional Repository

Laura Riley *University of Colorado Anschutz, Strauss Health Sciences Library*

As a result of staff turnover and reductions, an academic health sciences library found itself with a significant backlog of campus electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) awaiting deposit in the institutional repository. ETDs and their metadata are delivered to the library server three times per year from Proquest. The metadata then needs to be mapped and formatted to a CSV template for bulk deposit into the repository. This process was previously done manually by copy and pasting each individual piece of metadata from the XML files to the CSV by a full time employee whose position no longer exists.

Faced with an infeasible manual workflow, the metadata librarian/repository manager turned to Copilot and later ChatGPT to transform the metadata. After many iterations, the librarian eventually used ChatGPT to help write a Python-based ETDs processor script that can run independently on a hard drive, cutting out LLM use completely.

Combined with help from a library student intern who applied MeSH terms —subject analysis was not trusted to LLMs—the ETDs backlog is quickly getting deposited. With the advent of the Python processor, there is also a sustainable workflow in place for the deposit of future batches of ETDs. This presentation will outline a case study of prudent application of generative AI to metadata management in repositories, and will empower audience members to consider how AI can help non-coder librarians to automate deterministic repository tasks.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session One: Go With the Workflow (2 - 3:20pm)

From Raw Data to Refined Insight: Forging Scholarly Output Connections in the Library

Dianne Johnson & Mego Franks *Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

Faculty regularly need data on scholarly outputs for promotion and tenure reviews, institutional reaccreditation, dashboards, and reporting. Without an institutional repository, our library developed a streamlined process for identifying, compiling, and presenting publications and metrics using library databases and customized Excel workbooks.

From the mid-1980s through 2018, the library maintained a faculty publications database populated through monthly searches of PubMed, Embase, and Web of Science. Following staff changes, the process was discontinued, but requests for publications data continued and increased after institutional mergers in 2019 and 2022. Additionally, stakeholders began requesting publication metrics alongside citation data.

We evaluated search syntax, controlled vocabularies, affiliation fields, and date conventions across databases to improve retrieval accuracy. Pilot projects demonstrated that combining author names with institutional affiliations produced the most reliable results. To improve efficiency, we created an Excel-based workflow that captures author names, affiliations, and requested date ranges, generating standardized search strategies and documentation. Search results are downloaded, stored using consistent naming conventions, deduplicated, and exported into customized Excel reports. To support metric requests, we explored several approaches and ultimately partnered with Cancer Center programmers utilizing Clarivate's Journal API, while continuing to verify data in Journal Citation Reports.

Patrons receive tailored Excel workbooks containing raw search data, publication citations, DOI hyperlinks, author attribution, and metrics when requested. Growing demand has led us to develop a SharePoint site for sharing results and workflows, while pursuing a long-term goal of implementing a commercial institutional repository to support broader reporting, metrics, and dashboard capabilities.

Research Beyond Publications: Preserving and Sharing Health Research Posters

Madeleine Beer & Mercer Kim *Monash Health*

There is an assumption that conference posters are the first step to publishing a research paper; however, a recent study found that time and financial constraints resulted in research concluding at the poster presentation stage (Holland, 2026). With less emphasis on collecting conference posters in institutional repositories compared to journal articles, book chapters, or conference presentations, this meant that emerging research could be permanently lost. Conference posters are a strong medium for presenting research in the health sciences and make up 68-75% of published research in the field (Rowe, 2017). However, conference abstracts are rarely indexed individually and the poster itself is not made available, which limits retrievability and accessibility of health research. To broaden the scope of the Monash Health Research Repository to include research posters and associated data, we expanded collection practices beyond traditional research outputs. To promote poster submissions into the repository and recognise posters as a valuable form of research communication, we established an annual poster competition in 2024. The initiative has successfully increased engagement, with poster submissions rising year on year and additional unsolicited submissions received outside competition periods. These trends demonstrate growing awareness of both research posters as scholarly outputs and the repository as a platform for preserving and showcasing institutional research.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session Two: Tada! Data (3:30 - 4:20pm)

Data Management and Sharing Plans in the IR Landscape, Part 1: Maximizing the value of these institutional assets

Anthony Dellureficio
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Since the 2023 release of the NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy (and the 2026 requirement of an updated format), the inclusion of Data Management and Sharing Plans (DMSP) in grant submissions have not merely represented an administrative change but have also signaled a substantive shift in research planning. Investigators, grant editors, and research administrators must coordinate early in the research lifecycle to consider the data needs and scholarly outcomes of a project. DMSPs typically identify the types and quantity of data, specific storage locations, and (in conjunction with NIH's Open Access Policy) can initiate a proactive consideration of intended publications. They represent both an informative component of scholarly communications as well as an institutional asset with the potential to enhance an institution's funding landscape.

While DMSPs are traditionally stored in grant management software as a supplemental file or within instructive, creation-centric tools (like the DMPTool), in this lightning talk I will advocate for their inclusion in a library's Institutional Repository (IR), Data Catalog, or other research informatics storage systems. By broadening the traditional collecting scope of the library's data management and scholarly communications systems at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK), we can gain a more comprehensive and proactive view of our research output, meaningfully contribute to our institution's funding framework, and facilitate greater synergy between the library, researchers, research administration, research informatics, and business analytics. The library is an especially appropriate place for this because of the breadth of the community we serve, our expertise with metadata, and central administrative positioning of the library.

Furthermore, I will discuss how this shift on collecting scope, when coupled with enhanced metadata, offers the library an opportunity to engage with emerging technologies such as Knowledge Graphs and AI-driven RAG models to get the most out of these valuable institutional assets.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session Two: Tada! Data (3:30 - 4:20pm)

Data Management and Sharing Plans in the IR Landscape, Part 2: Developing a DMSP-specific metadata schema
Isha Shadale *Kent State University (NCDS Data Intern – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center)*
Brendan O'Hagen *Pratt Institute*
Erika Vásquez *Texas Woman's University*

Abstract: Data Management and Sharing Plans (DMSPs) are a vital part of the research data management (RDM) ecosystem, but as information resources, they are not readily findable, accessible, and reusable. As part of the Network of the National Library of Medicine's National Center for Data Services (NCDS) internship, our group, in a project hosted by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK), developed recommendations for a metadata schema to improve the storage, discovery, and retrieval of DMSPs. In this lightning talk, we map our project and its methodology, including learning about the policy landscape, understanding the kinds of information in DMSPs and ultimately creating a data dictionary to define a schema which maximizes DMSP utility to researchers and enhances their value as institutional assets.

Dear IRB: A Field Guide for Data Librarians
Molly Hirst *University of Michigan*
Rachel Woodbrook *University of Minnesota*

Data librarians and IRBs (Institutional Review Boards) work in parallel towards protecting human research participants while also helping researchers meet their funding and publishing obligations; however, it is uncommon for data librarians to have a seat at the IRB table, which can create downstream data sharing issues. This is especially relevant when IRBs approve informed consent language that does not meet data repository requirements. After more than ten years, we finally have regular meetings with our IRB to talk through the practical realities of data sharing, how informed consent language impacts researchers' ability to share data, and the legal versus ethical differences in de-identification standards, before they become problems. Here, we discuss why this meeting was critical, how we finally got the meetings, and what we do with the time now that we have it. Additionally, we discuss one thing we wish every IRB knew about open data publishing and share practical tips for building or starting this relationship at your own institution.

Thursday Nov. 19 2026 Session Two: Tada! Data (3:30 - 4:20pm)

From Data Catalog to Institutional Repository: Evolving a Homegrown Repository Through Library Leadership and Cross-Collaboration
Nicole Bentinganan *Children's National Hospital*

In early 2025, Children's National Hospital began exploring the use of Alation, a data catalog, as an alternative to a traditional repository. Initial efforts focused on creating a centralized location for research outputs while establishing metadata standards, governance structures, and plans for automation and enhanced discovery. As presented at last year's conference, the project operated with broad objectives but demonstrated the potential for the library to leverage existing institutional infrastructure in innovative ways.

Since then, the initiative has evolved into a formal pilot program to develop a homegrown research repository through collaboration between the library and DevOps teams. Rather than investing in a commercial repository solution, the project utilizes SQL, PowerBI, Excel, and Endnote to support data management, reporting, and workflow development. To date, the repository includes 3,945 cataloged publications, and 2,959 researcher records. Executive sponsorship from the head of the research institute has provided critical institutional support and helped establish clear project parameters, governance procedures, and long-term sustainability plans.

The evolution of this initiative demonstrates that meaningful repository development does not require a dedicated repository platform from the beginning. Through strategic partnerships, iterative development, and the effective use of existing technologies, institutions can establish sustainable solutions that improve research visibility and support organizational reporting. This approach offers a practical model for libraries seeking to advance repository services in an increasingly constrained funding environment.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Three: Foundations of MIRL (2 - 3pm)

Growing an Institutional Repository: Challenges, Lessons, and Opportunities
Angela McKee & Misti Thorton *University of Mississippi Medical Center*
Marisela Madrigal *Marquette University*

Creating an institutional repository (IR) can be a challenging task for libraries, especially those with little experience and limited resources. In this Lightning Talk, we will share our experience at the University of Mississippi Medical Center as we created and organized an IR from the ground up, with limited knowledge of the IR selection process and no familiarity with the platform or its features.

We'll discuss how teamwork, professional development, outreach, and marketing initiatives have helped us shape the emerging repository we have today. We will also discuss the challenges we encountered along the way, the lessons we learned while working with a small team of three librarians, and the future initiatives we have planned for the repository.

This Lighting Talk is for institutions considering starting or improving an IR program with little IR experience or limited resources. Attendees will learn how we promoted the repository, what collections and content we decided to include, and how we developed workflows despite challenges. Our goal is to offer helpful insights for others on a similar journey.

TRUST Principles for IRs
Meredith Goins *World Data System*

Medical library institutional repositories play a critical role in making health sciences scholarship, research data, and other digital assets accessible for future use. Repository teams frequently focus on making data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) and on supporting appropriate authority, responsibility, ethics, and community-centered practice through the CARE Principles. Yet these commitments depend on an equally important question: how can a repository demonstrate that it is trustworthy enough to preserve and provide access to these materials over time?

This 10-minute virtual presentation introduces the TRUST Principles—Transparency, Responsibility, User Focus, Sustainability, and Technology—as a practical framework for communicating digital repository trustworthiness. Designed as an entry point rather than a maturity model or certification standard, TRUST helps repositories articulate their policies, stewardship responsibilities, technical infrastructure, and long-term commitments to users and stakeholders.

Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how medical library institutional repositories can use TRUST to begin—or strengthen—conversations about reliable digital preservation and responsible data sharing.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Three: Foundations of MIRL (2 - 3pm)

Bridging (Medicine OR Dentistry) AND Open Expert Search Strategies
Ellen Thieme & Kelly O'Brien *American Dental Association*

The ADA Commons Search Strategy collection brings together expert-developed search strategies and search strings focused on dentistry and oral health. Inspired by a 2025 MIRL presentation ("TUScholarShare Update: Celebrating 5 Years of Search Data Deposits"), the Search Strategies collection holds methodologically constructed queries designed to support efficient, comprehensive, and reproducible information retrieval across a range of oral health topics. Oral health has often been thought of as divorced from medicine. Recently, the focus in both fields has shifted towards interdisciplinary care, with efforts currently underway to improve patient health outcomes through collaboration across disciplines. These new bridges have revealed differences in vocabulary and technology between oral health professionals and medical practitioners. This resource promotes consistency in search practices, reduces redundant effort, supports evidence-based decision-making, and offers direct examples of oral health terminology in practical use. Two types of searches are available: single topic search strings used by ADA Library & Archives staff to answer member questions (with examples!) and expert search strategies from articles published in peer-reviewed journals. This talk will cover collection organization, usage statistics, and feedback received since its launch.

The School Corner's Virtual Field Trips – The Power of Shared Experiences Through a Digital Repository
Amy Six-Means, Talia Fayson, Chris Stork & Claire Mcloughlin
Children's Health

Hospitalization can disrupt a child's connection to school, routine, and learning. Students of all ages may have limited access to meaningful educational experiences during hospitalization. Educational specialists developed a program called *The School Corner* to bridge this gap by providing brief, engaging, and familiar educational programming directly to the bedside. For patients experiencing longer hospitalizations, virtual field trips provide opportunities to explore museums, landmarks, different countries, and community experiences from their bedside. Through inclusion in the Children's Health Repository, these resources gain enhanced visibility, discoverability, and longevity. Rather than remaining isolated within a single organization, virtual field trips become accessible educational assets that can be easily located, shared, and reused by patients, families, educators, and others. The repository expands awareness of our School Services resources and amplifies their impact by connecting a broader audience with educational content whenever and wherever it is needed.

This presentation will describe the development and implementation of our virtual field trip idea and examine how the Children's Health Repository enhances the discoverability, visibility, and reuse of this content, extending the reach and impact of School Services educational programming beyond our organization across the globe.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Three: Foundations of MIRL (2 - 3pm)

Implementing Digital Repository Outreach for Capstone-Based Health Sciences Programs

Will White *University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center*

The University of New Mexico Digital Repository's Health Sciences Center collections serve scholarly, creative and administrative materials for students, faculty, and staff. Several graduate and undergraduate research programs within the university's Health Sciences Center culminate in project-based capstones that seek to provide practical and local solutions to clinical problems based on medical evidence. Many of these programs also require poster presentations at campus conferences related to their capstone. Because Health Sciences Center students are not mandated to deposit ETDs or capstone projects, outreach is necessary for raising awareness of the UNM Digital Repository and the benefits of sharing scholarship openly.

In this presentation, the Health Sciences Center's Scholarly Communications Librarian will share successful outreach strategies targeted at departmental capstone projects within Nursing, Pharmacy, and Undergraduate Medical Education during his first year. Through direct outreach to capstone seminar instructors and program directors, new structures were collaboratively created within the Digital Repository for both student final capstone papers and for research posters and presentations. Building these relationships with faculty led to invitations to departmental orientations and seminar sessions. Students were demonstrated using the repository as both a place to store publications and a discovery tool for getting inspiration from previous student capstone projects. Asynchronous instruction was also provided through video recordings adapting content from the Health Sciences Center's digital repository library guide, with program-specific demonstrations for submitting to their respective collections.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Four: Makeover Time (3:10 - 4:20pm)

Making Nursing Scholarship Visible: Institutional Repository Support of Magnet Recertification
Amanda Steinvall *Providence Health & Services*

During Magnet recertification efforts, a large health system's research repository took on a high-profile role through collaboration with Nursing leadership and Magnet coordinators. What began as a targeted data request quickly became an opportunity to demonstrate the repository's broader value as both a showcase for scholarship and evidence of the creation of new nursing knowledge.

After initial outreach between nursing and repository staff, the team developed a one-page report that translated repository usage data into concise, location-specific evidence of nursing scholarship. The report highlighted collective and individual author publication activity, submissions, citations, downloads, high-traffic authors, and global engagement. Designed to be visually accessible and easy to adapt, the format created a scalable model that could be used for other enterprise locations while also streamlining future data pulls and displays.

The collaboration renewed interest in usage statistics and author-level analytics, bolstered visibility for the institutional repository and author profile platform, and showcased the medical library as a strategic partner in institutional recognition efforts. These efforts contributed to the successful Magnet recertification of three hospitals by providing clear, location-specific evidence of nursing scholarship and impact. By translating scholarly activity into clear evidence of impact, repository staff demonstrated how medical libraries can connect research repository infrastructure to organizational achievement, visibility, and recognition.

Aligning the Library Website and Institutional Repository Experience: Redesign, Implement and Engage
Alice Sherwood *Texas Medical Center Library*

Approximately a year ago, we started the process of changing sidebar menu items and breadcrumb navigation to help with enhancing accessibility for the library website based on some suggestions by staff members having issues with the website. As the project progressed of adjusting and changes to the library website navigation progressed, it was obvious how much these changes have created more differences of navigation menus between our library website and institutional repository creating no so streamlined experiences for users between the two. With the timing also eligible for the institutional repository to go through a redesign, steps were taken to document the needed typeset, font families to as close as the library website as possible. The new design was launched shortly before the end of 2025, with additional menus on the institutional repository, providing users with more cohesive experience and options to find items in our institutional repository.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Four: Makeover Time (3:10 - 4:20pm)

Three Years Post-Migration: What Happened to Self-Submit in an Institutional Repository
Pamela Pierce *Oregon Health & Science University*

Three years ago we migrated our institutional repository content from Samvera into Tind. Part of that migration process included extensive conversations about what our self-submit forms would be, how many of them we would have, what fields would be on them. We are talking many meetings. The result was that we had two separate self-submit forms, one for ETDs and another for other kinds of scholarly content. This presentation will focus on the actual usage of those submission forms. The short story is that only the ETD form was used. I will talk about why and what other institutions can take away from this.

Rebranding a 16-Year-Old IR: A Case Study
Michelle Shannon *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

In 2025, a small repository team at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Libraries rebranded their 16-year old institutional repository (IR). The rebrand included a new name, URL, web design, marketing materials, submission process, and a launch event. It also included unique successes and challenges due to being hosted by Digital Commons. This presentation will present a case study on how to successfully structure a rebranding project like this, keep track of all the moving parts, and launch a "new" IR to the university. It will also discuss the impact of rebranding on engagement and outreach efforts.

Friday Nov. 20 2026 Session Four: Makeover Time (3:10 - 4:20pm)

No Repository, No Problem: Building a Medical Library Archive Through a Campus Portal

Alexia Riggs & Blair Hollender *Alice L. Walton School of Medicine*

New medical schools often face competing priorities, limited resources, and evolving infrastructure, making the implementation of a traditional institutional repository challenging. To address this gap, the Alice L. Walton School of Medicine Library adopted a non-traditional approach by leveraging Jenzabar's campus portal, a highly trafficked platform already embedded in the daily workflows of students, faculty, and staff. This portal is a catalyst for starting a more formalized repository, encouraging conversation within our community. Rather than waiting for a dedicated repository solution, the library created a portal-based space to promote scholarly communication, collect institutional materials, support archival submissions, and engage the campus community in preserving the school's emerging history. By meeting users where they already work and interact, the library has increased visibility, lowered participation barriers, and begun cultivating a culture of preservation and knowledge sharing from the institution's earliest stages. This case study highlights the opportunities and challenges of using existing campus technologies to support repository and archival initiatives. Librarians will discuss the challenges of creating a new medical repository while creating a medical library collection. Attendees will gain practical strategies for building community engagement, encouraging content submission, and laying out the foundation for future repository development in new or resource-constrained institutions.

Supermode (You Better Workflows): A Scholarly Activity Tracking Walkthrough

Steven Moore *Sladen Library, Henry Ford Health*

Scholarly activity has long been on the rise, but Henry Ford Health's expansion in southeast Michigan in the past few years has increased the system's output by about a thousand publications per year. In order to accommodate a sudden rise in workload, I was forced to get creative. This presentation will demonstrate efforts to improve the librarian-led scholarly activity tracking workflow in a rapidly growing healthcare institution.

"Supermode" includes templates for spreadsheet batch uploads, macros to minimize repetitive keyboard tasks, a self-compiled master list of authors, and other tools and workflows that helped zhuzh the day-to-day. I hope to share tips and inspire creative solutions for IR managers to stay afloat in the rising tides of scholarly activity.

Because if you can't love your IR, how are you gonna love somebody else's?

Vendor Presentations

Vendor presentations are available as audiovisual recordings with accompanying slides on the MIRL Symposium website following this year's event.

Bridging the Gap: From Institutional Repository to Research Infrastructure Component
Holger Lenz *Lyrasis*

Navigating IR Migrations and Maximizing ROI: A Hosted InvenioRDM Framework for Health Sciences
Aaron McCollough *Paradigm Repositories, Paradigm Publishing Services*

TDNet DataSphere AI document summaries + automated metadata extraction: time-savers for clinician and researcher workflows
Paul Cuomo *TDNet*

The 10-minute Medical Repository Health Check (Lessons from supporting repositories across the global health and medical research community)
Kobe Jong *Atmire*

Alt-text Is Not Enough
Jeff Lang *FigureTwo*

MIRL 2026 Symposium

Thank you for attending the 2026 MIRL Symposium!

We are grateful to all of our presenters for sharing their time, efforts, and knowledge with us! After the symposium, please take a moment to complete our feedback survey.

Follow us for more on our website, YouTube channel, and Google Group.

Thanks, and see you next year!

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