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# Feeling Around in the Dark: Defining the Library's Role in a Campus-Wide Digitization Project

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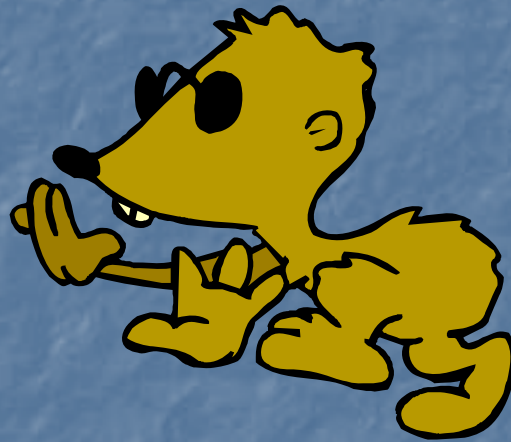
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# Feeling Around in the Dark

Establishing the Role of the Library in a  
Campus Wide Digitization Project



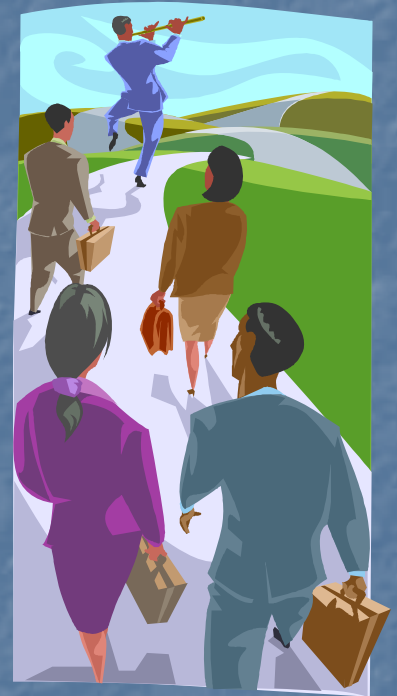
**Lamar Soutter Library**  
**University of Massachusetts Medical School**  
**Mary Piorun & James Comes**

# Project Background

- Faculty members go to IS for help managing images used for teaching
  - IS doesn't have the resources or time
  - The Library has knowledge and staff expertise
- 
- **TIP #1: Seek out opportunities to showcase your skills**

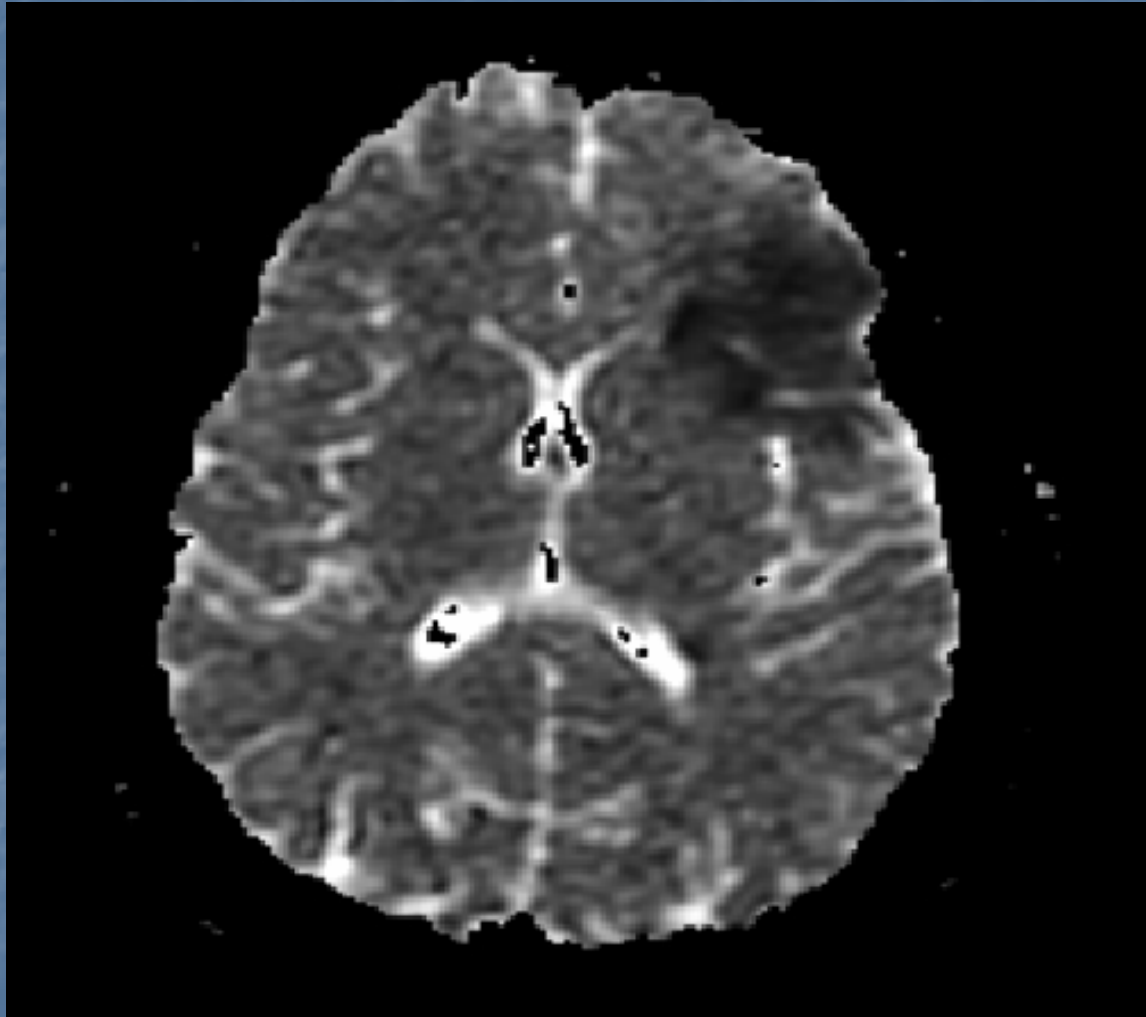
# Faculty Readiness

- Curious - want to get involved
- Leaders – have private collections to share





# Right Sided Weakness



Source: University of Massachusetts Medical School  
Department of Neurology  
Maria Dayaw

# Faculty Readiness

- Status quo



- **TIP #2: Start with faculty who are the most receptive to change**

# Waiting & Planning

- Step 1: Forming goals
  - Fuzzy or implied
    - Build a database of faculty created images for use by faculty in teaching
- Step 2: Obtain funding
  - Shared costs
    - IS: software & installation
    - Library: training
    - What's missing? hardware and maintenance
  - **TIP #3: You may be required to Act before you Think**

# Ready – Set – Go

- The Library is formally charged with forming and leading a campus wide team to implement a digital image database.
  - Library staff
  - Information Services
    - Academic Computing
    - Instructional Technology
  - School and clinical faculty
- **TIP #4: Include representation from a broad range of departments**





# Project Goals vs. Departmental Goals

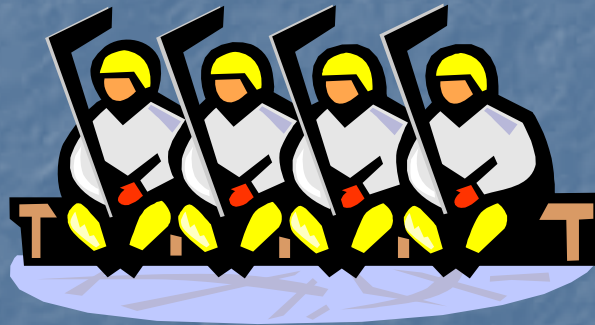
## ■ **Library:**

- Add value by offering expertise in organization, indexing and cataloging
- Develop new relationships with school and clinical departments to improve patient care
- Promote the Library and its staff

- **TIP #5: Know all the goals of all team members**

# Benefits of the Team

- Regular schedule of meetings
- Set milestones and deadlines
- Form comprehensive cross departmental policies
- Establish workflows and responsibilities



- **TIP #6: Working together leads to buy-in**

# Role of the Library

- Promote and advertise the project
- Train faculty
- Quality control
- MeSH headings
- Add new fields to the database if needed



- **TIP #7: Know your limit – Stay within it**



# Biggest Hurdles

- Staying focused and not getting overwhelmed
- Communicating
  - Library culture vs. Information Services culture
  - Defining roles from a customer service point of view
- Faculty: time & trust



- **TIP #8: Work within your institution's culture to find creative solutions**



# Progress

- Eight faculty members trained
  - Over 100 images
  - New server on the way
  - Key decisions behind us
  - Follow-up with trained faculty
- 
- **TIP #9: Acknowledge your accomplishments**

# Final Tip

- Jump in head first



# Questions?

## Contact Information

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