Collaborating to Improve Collaboration: Informationist Team Support for an Interdisciplinary Research Group

Margaret E. Henderson  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Julie Arendt  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

John W. W. Cyrus  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Karen H. Gau  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Martha Roseberry  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Follow this and additional work at: [https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/escience_symposium](https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/escience_symposium)

Part of the Scholarly Communication Commons

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

Repository Citation

Creative Commons License
This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Massachusetts and New England Area Librarian e-Science Symposium by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
Collaborating to Improve Collaboration: Informationist Team Support for an Interdisciplinary Research Group.

Margaret Henderson, Research Data Management, VCU Libraries; Julie Arendt and Martha Roseberry, Academic Outreach, James Branch Cabell Library; John Cyrus and Karen Gau, Research and Education, Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences

The Informationist Team hopes to show that this model, utilizing the skills of multiple librarians, is a viable way to support the increasing number of interdisciplinary and interprofessional research groups at the university who need help from embedded librarians. By working as a group, the Informationist Team is able to help in many new roles.

**Survey Results**
*After 1 Year (n=7)*
- 5 of 7 had worked with Informationists, found what they needed, and saved time.
- “Having someone who knows database searching helped save me time.”
- “Found Sources I may not have otherwise.”

**Changes from Pre-Survey (n=3)**
- Moved from school server to cloud for storage of data, documents, etc.
- Recognized data management as important to work.

---

**Traditional Roles**
1. Help with literature search.
2. Help find journals for submission.
3. Help format bibliography.

**Additional Informationist Roles**
5. Help set up and teach group citation management tool.
6. Teach students, staff, etc. about research data management.
7. Help set up and maintain research data organization.
8. Help with data analysis and visualization.
10. Make sure sharing is tied to ORCID and keep track of altmetrics.
11. Find data for reuse.