Building an e-Science Portal for Librarians: A Model of Collaboration

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The collaboration of biomedical and science subject and technology librarians is crucial to developing an e-Science portal that will provide the essential tools and knowledge for librarians to effectively engage in networked science.

The portal has been developed through the joint efforts of a web development team from the Lamar Soutter Library at UMASS Medical School and advisory and editorial boards made up of science and medical subject librarians from diverse New England research institutions.

Editors evaluate content for the portal guided by a set of selection criteria. They aggregate and annotate links to the content, and submit them to the portal coordinator for further review. The portal coordinator and the web development team then plan the organization and layout of this content in the relevant subject area.

Members of the editorial board serve as content editors. Each content editor identifies and aggregates links to resources for a specific focus area. These focus areas include news/events/opportunities about e-Science, e-Science and Libraries, Current Projects, Science Primers. Through the portal blog, editorial librarians have laid the groundwork for a virtual community of librarians interested in e-Science to post discussions and collaborate.

- **News/events/opportunities:**
  - Maxine Schmidt, UMASS Amherst
  - Highlights current "hot topics," past upcoming events, job and educational opportunities, and the latest e-Science news.

- **Current Projects:**
  - Amy Stout, MIT
  - Showcases various e-Science initiatives currently underway, both within individual institutions, and as multi-institutional national projects.

- **e-Science Community:**
  - Jen Ferguson, Brandeis University; Myrna Morales, UMASS Medical School
  - Blog and discussion forum for the e-Science librarian community

- **e-Science:**
  - Donna Kafel, UMASS Medical School
  - Researchers and Data, Cyberinfrastructure, Policy, Organizations

- **e-Science and Libraries:**
  - Donna Kafel, UMASS Medical School; Barbara Metell, Holy Cross
  - Library roles, data curation, educating librarians and researchers

- **Science Primers:**
  - Andrew Creamer, Simmons GSLIS; Myrna Morales, UMASS Medical School; Juan Olmuy, Northeastern University; Regina Rabino, Tufts University
  - Provide links to introductory science subject resources to librarians who may not have a science background or who may be unfamiliar with a particular domain.

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