

Choose IR Own Adventure:

Re-examining the Purpose  
and Mission of our  
Institutional Repository

**Denise Hersey**

Dana Medical Library Director

**Christie Silkotch**

Science & Data Librarian

**Chris Burns**

Interim Director of Special Collections

**Donna O'Malley**

Research & Education Librarian

**Lyman Ross**

Systems Librarian



The University of Vermont

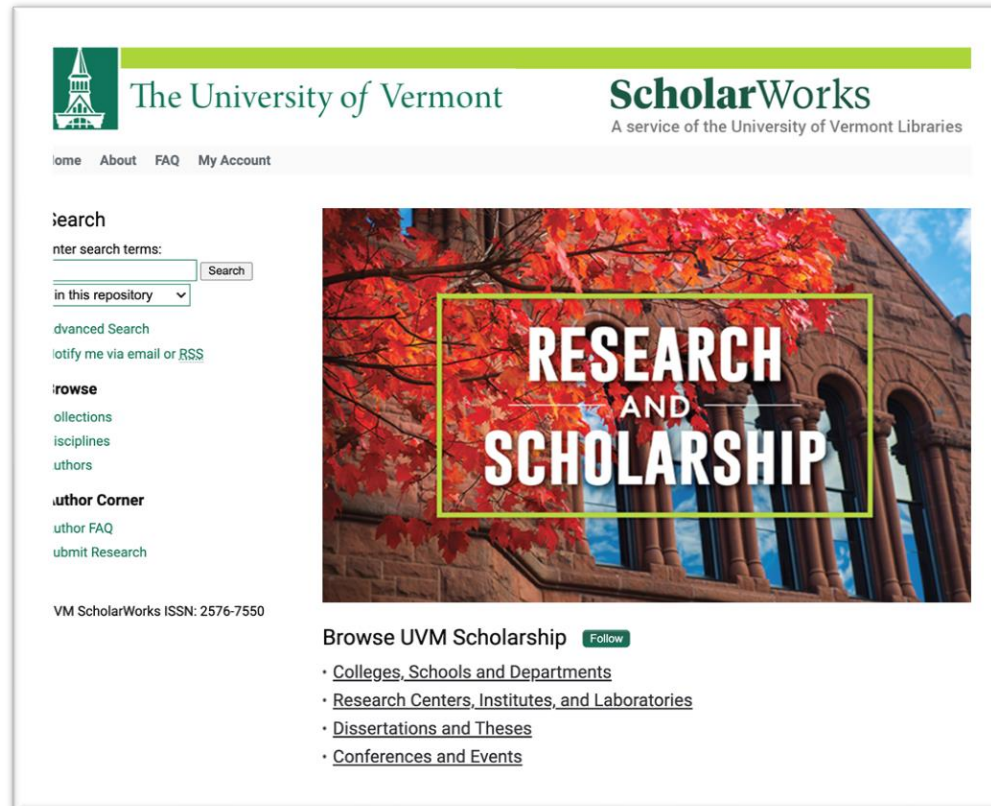
# History and Context of IR at UVM

## The Beginning: 2007

- Theses and Dissertations
- Dspace

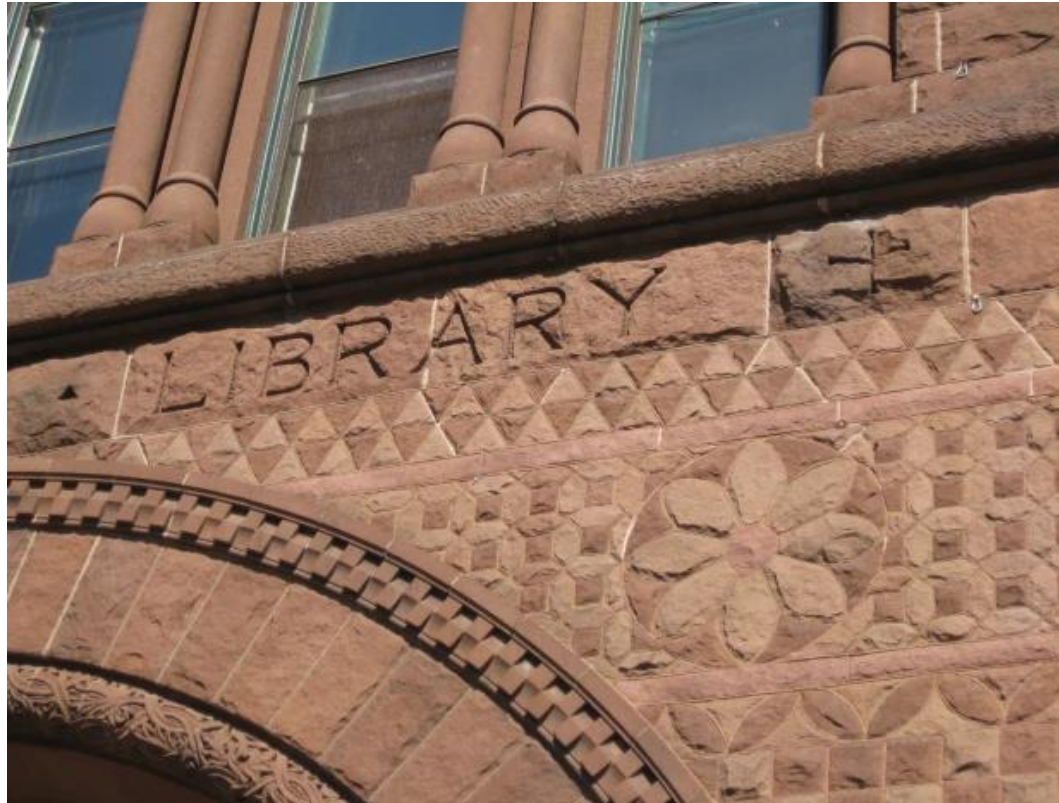
## Transformations

- Scholarly Communications Report
- Ad Hoc Committee
- Digital Commons (bepress)



# Current Task Force

- Purpose
- Membership
- Addressed:
  - Mission
  - Content
  - Administrative home
  - Staffing
  - Platform



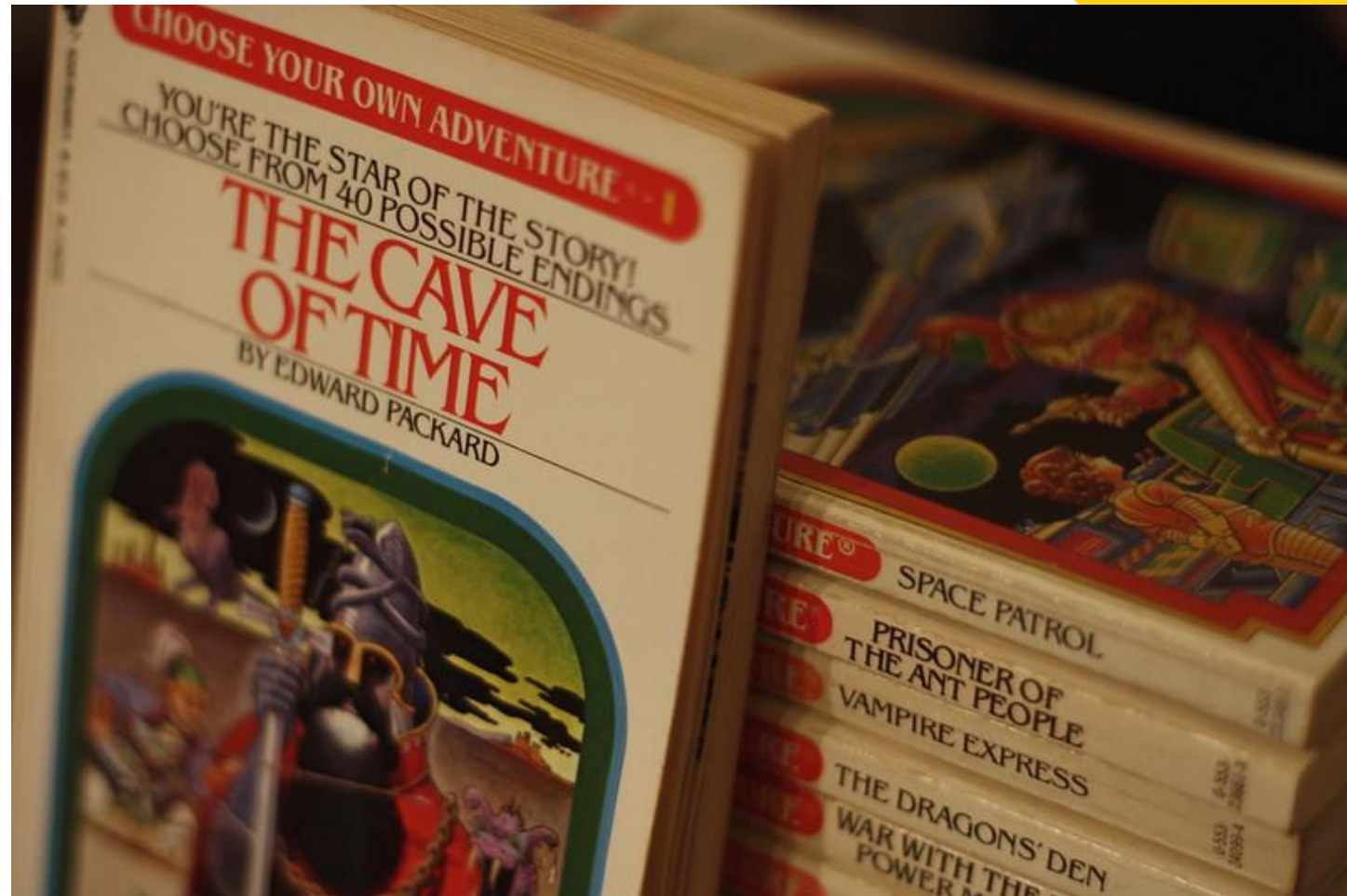
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# Process

- Evaluate/document the status of IR through lenses of mission, content, administrative home, staffing, platform
- Committee members represent interests of the stakeholders/areas they are most familiar with
- Review the literature
- Benchmark comparators (peer/aspirant) for the following, when info available on websites:
  - 5 categories for IR and DC
  - OA mandate? Does strategic plan address IR? Conferences?
- Investigate alternative platforms (vendor demos and quotes)
  - Potentially support IR and digital collections
  - Consider migration cost and time

# Scenarios

- **Four (not 40) possible endings** that all include the original five key questions: mission, content, administrative home, staffing, platform (as appropriate)
- Decided a baseline minimum scenario as keeping an IR (eliminating it was originally on the table)



[Photo by Derek Bruff, CC](#)

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# Scenario 1

- **Mission:** Encourage and reward academic success and enhance student recruitment by providing a public venue highlighting student research achievements.
- **Content:** Undergraduate and graduate student final projects, theses, and dissertations. Significant graduate student research projects. Undergraduate Student Research Conference abstracts.
- **Summary:** Streamlined, trimmed version of what we already provide (roughly 60% of current IR content). A few departments suggested for oversight, including those with liaisons or Special Collections (digitization expertise). Partial percentage of time for one faculty and one staff.



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## Scenario 2

- **Mission:** Enhance UVM's research impact and recognition through providing a public venue for research outputs not available elsewhere.
- **Content:** Same as scenario 1, plus faculty grey literature (not formally published elsewhere but has research and information value) with option of merging existing Digital Collections onto same platform
- **Summary:** Expands support for existing content, narrows focus, merges two platforms (currently Bepress and Islandora), and rehomes under the auspices of Special Collections (due to Digital Collections). Up to 100% of one faculty and one staff position.

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## Scenario 3

- **Mission:** Cultivate a culture of open access and enhance UVM's research impact, recognition, and land grant mission by providing open access to student and faculty publications, datasets, and other non-published work and hosting a platform to meet funder and/or internal sharing mandates.
- **Content:** Same as scenario 1, plus faculty grey literature, and green open access publications and data.
- **Summary:** Expands support for existing content types and increases outreach and marketing. Explores creation of a new unit within an existing department in the Libraries, related to scholarly communications. Up to 100% of one faculty and one staff position.



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## Scenario 4

- **Mission:** To advance the range and depth of UVM's research aspirations, a new unit provides centralized support for the creation of and access to unique digital objects and collections produced by UVM scholars.
- **Content:** Same as scenario 3, plus Digital Collections, open access publishing (greatly expanded), digitization, online exhibits (new), and digital humanities (new).
- **Summary:** Reinvents support for existing content types and dramatically increases offerings. Creation of a new Digital Scholarship Division. Adds a new faculty position (Scholarly Communications) and 2.5 staff members (Digital Collections, IR/metadata, digital publishing, and digitization).

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# Next Steps & Conclusions

- Align with strategic plan development and future budget proposal planning
- Present report to the dean for consideration

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**Thank You!**  
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