Expectations, needs and responsibilities of academic libraries to their medical and health communities

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- Institutional Strategy
Library Strategy 2005-10

- 10 over-arching goals
- E-Strategy a priority for:
  - Teaching and Learning
  - Research
  - Student experience
  - Partnership working

See http://www.ucl.ac.uk/Library/libstrat_may05.shtml
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- User Behaviour
VRE/VLE/local web

Local Hospital/NHS Systems

Prescribed core readings and textbooks

Local UCL holdings
Paper and e-

Research collaborations; Primary data; Group project work; Learning interface

See Patient Records; use Trust/NHS networks to access financial/admin. information

Core textbooks (STM); Digital readings (AHSS)

Books/Journals/AV/Digital Collections and Archives

Social networking tools

Global resources - free

E-Journals, E-Books, mass digitisation

Google interface to Internet

External content subscribed and free

Portal development?

YouTube, FaceBook, Flickr

External content

Global resources - free
Key Strategic Questions

- British Museum Reading Room is traditional model
  - Library *pull* readers into library space
- In a networked and global environment, library is just *one* content provider
- In UCL, STM researchers hardly ever set foot into a physical library space
  - Digital material is pushed to them electronically at their desktop
- Should the Library *push* stuff out to where the user is?
  - Is the portal concept helpful in providing a one-stop shop for the user to navigate both local and remote content and services?
- Thanks to Lorcan Dempsey for this metaphor and discussion
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2. Implications
   - Open Access
   - Joint Procurement
UCL's published research outputs

% available digitally to Nottingham researchers?

Less than 60%

100% to walk-in users at UCL
0% remotely online

% available to the general public?
90% of its funded research is available online

% available to an NHS hospital?

UK National Health Service

What should NHS do?

- Open Access is good for the researcher
- Good for the practitioner
- And good for the patient
- NHS and HE can work together to embed Open Access into the NHS culture
- SHERPA programme in UK Higher Education, funded in part by the JISC, is a model of good practice for NHS
- Strategic Content Alliance is a good focal point for debate, since both JISC and the National Library for Health are members
  - [http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/themes/eresources/contentalliance.aspx](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/themes/eresources/contentalliance.aspx)
SHERPA as an Open Access exemplar

- **SHERPA**
  - [http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/)
  - Has cross-search service to 26 Open Access repositories in UK HE
  - Provides tools for copyright management
  - OpenDOAR lists global Open Access repositories
  - As of 24.6.08, lists 83 Open Access repositories in Health and Medicine
  - NHS represented by ReFeR, repository of the findings of research studies funded by the Department of Health, 1289 items
Procurement

- Peter Hill: *From Knowledge to Health in the Twenty-First Century*
  - [http://www.library.nhs.uk/aboutnlh/review](http://www.library.nhs.uk/aboutnlh/review)

- Report advocates joint procurement of content between HE and the NHS
- HE spends more on purchase of content, especially e-content, than NHS by factor of 10:1
- Content is already sometimes procured by public purse for the same person twice, as an HE and NHS individual
- Recommendation 43:
  - The National Library for Health, through its working group, should consult on and gain consensus on “core content”, covering approximately 80% of NHS health library journal needs. This core content should form the basis of the national process for journal (paper and electronic) procurement
Great advantage in NHS and HE working together on this
Already links to the JISC and to the NHS/HE Content Group, part of the NHS/HE Forum
   See http://www.nhs-he.org.uk/
Joint procurement recommended by Spink S, Urquhart C, Cox A. Procurement of electronic content across the UK National Health Service and Higher Education. University of Wales Aberystwyth (November 2006)
   See http://www.nhshe.org.uk/Procurement%20of%20NHS%20and%20HE%20e%20content%20Report.pdf
Procurement - Issues

- Definition of what is core content
  - Is there a shared view on this across HE and the NHS?
- Who pays in HE and where are the funding streams in the NHS?
  - How sustainable are these sources of funding?
  - How can current procurement cycles in the two domains be aligned to effect joint procurement?
- Will publishers work with NHS and HE as a joint procurement body?
- How wide is the definition of authorised users, both in HE and NHS?
- Can we actually prove that savings will result from such joint activity?
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5. Conclusions
Conclusions?

- User Behaviour is changing and information provision has to follow new modes of delivery
- Open Access is a growing movement in Higher Education
  - NHS is not currently well served
  - Researcher, clinician and patient would all benefit from greater access to published research outputs
- Joint Procurement of e-content between HE and the NHS would help shoulder the burden and could lead to savings in the public purse
  - Challenge is to work out the road map to get from where we are now to where we want to be
- If you have been, thanks for listening
  - Happy to hear comments