Using scholarly communication and data management to increase face time with engineering students

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TRADITIONAL LIBRARY ORIENTATION

Overview
At UCLA, the Science and Engineering Librarians are typically granted about 10 minutes to introduce themselves and library services to incoming engineering graduate students during fall departmental orientations. Librarians are one of many speakers. The content usually covered is below.

Science and Engineering Library Website
SEL Blog
Research Guides
Library Catalogs
Collections
Reference and Instruction

LEVERAGE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

UCLA Library Scholarly Communication Services
Librarians and library staff members help faculty, students, and staff understand and deal with copyright, publishing, intellectual property, and other related issues. Services include individual consultations, small-group workshops, and in-class presentations on a variety of topics including:

• Scholarships (UC institutional repository)
• Copyright basics
• Author’s rights (retaining your copyright)
• Using copyrighted materials in the educational setting
• NIH Public Access Policy
• Open Access publishing and finding publication outlets
• Data Management

Outreach to Electrical Engineering Faculty
1. Proposed copyright workshop for TAs in spring – no response.
2. Emailed again in summer with idea of incorporating workshop into incoming grad student orientation. Added data management component to proposed agenda.
3. After faculty coordinator expressed interest in making the workshop mandatory for all incoming grads, we began a dialogue on scholarly communication topics that culminated in a mandatory 90 minute library orientation.

NEW ORIENTATION

Overview
The Electrical Engineering faculty orientation coordinator required all incoming graduate students to attend a 90 minute library-only orientation where copyright and data management were emphasized. The content covered is below.

Copyright
Protecting the copyright of your own work and using copyrighted materials in the educational setting

Data Management Services
The UCLA Library can help researchers with data management.

CONCLUSIONS

• Highlighting new library services rather than traditional services allowed the library to present itself in a new light to faculty with different perceptions of library services. Select parts of the scholarly communication portfolio most relevant to your audience to emphasize. We were able to showcase the breadth of library services available to new graduate students.
• Students and faculty are interested in ownership over their scholarly work, want control over dissemination of their research, and want it to have the broadest possible impact. Librarians would be wise to frame copyright and data management issues to appeal to this.
• Students were more engaged than in previous years due to larger scope and time allotted to library orientation.