
Building the Infrastructure: The OhioLINK CollaboraTeS Project

Instead of “Surviving Technical Services,” think of thriving and building on the knowledge and expertise gained by years of building the library’s information infrastructure. Look to sister institutions for inspiration and opportunities, as OhioLINK libraries are doing. In spring 2009, OhioLINK’s Database Management and Standards Committee surveyed OhioLINK libraries to inventory cataloging and technical services expertise. The researchers sought information regarding a library’s capacity for language skills, cataloging skills and technology expertise with a variety of technical services products and services. The results are in and are available for use on a day-to-day basis by OhioLINK libraries. The project, CollaboraTeS, is designed to foster collaboration by providing information about methods of collaboration, as well as a venue for determining which libraries are willing to assist others, barter or trade for assistance or, contract for assistance, skills or work. The project includes supportive documents including boilerplate contracts, project specification patterns, cost models and sample memorandums of understanding. The researchers will present what they discovered and provide an update on the status of CollaboraTeS. Ohio academic libraries will become more aware of resources available to them via the CollaboraTeS project and other libraries will be encouraged to consider this model.

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Speaker’s notes are available at the OhioLINK CollaboraTeS Project Web Page:
<http://platinum.ohiolink.edu/dms/collaborate/collaborates.htm>

Speaker’s notes, Handouts and copy of the Survey Tool are available at Margaret Maurer’s personal Web page at KSU:
<http://www.personal.kent.edu/~mbmaurer/BuildingtheInfrastructure.html>
