Partnering across sectors: Integrating library and information services into a University research complex

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Results
Meeting the information needs of this diverse population requires a multi-faceted approach to providing information services. In addition to domain knowledge and specialized information organization and retrieval skills, the librarians serve as a boundary-spanning unit within NCRC and are “connectors” to people, resources, and ideas. Co-location at NCRC allows for serendipitous meetings that lead to projects, responsive in-person communications compared to email, immediate in-depth discussions, and a deeper understanding of information needs by being in the researchers’ environment.

Next Steps
• Become a book-drop location at request of NCRC residents.
• Increase outreach: proactively reach out to new residents and identify ways to remain relevant to existing constituents.
• Deepen subject expertise: keep abreast of subjects relevant to the NCRC population, such as data management, collaborative information tools, and the role of quality information in team science.
• Continue assessment and evaluation: identify further metrics that indicate positive impact on researcher and other residents’ goals; increase awareness of constituent information needs.

Methods
The Taubman Health Sciences Library established MLibrary@NCRC to integrate and embed tailored information resources and services into NCRC, and to support the research complex’s collaborative mission. Combining the services and expertise of a bioinformationist, translational research liaison librarian, and public/private partnership librarian, MLibrary@NCRC provides services to all individuals and groups housed at NCRC, including research cores and clusters, companies, public/private partnerships, and non-profits. To assess use and value added, the following metrics are being collected: number and type of interactions, the quantity of emails received by a group email address, and the usage of LibGuides (online resource guides).