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Sustaining Institutional Repositories: Breaking the Mold to Add Value

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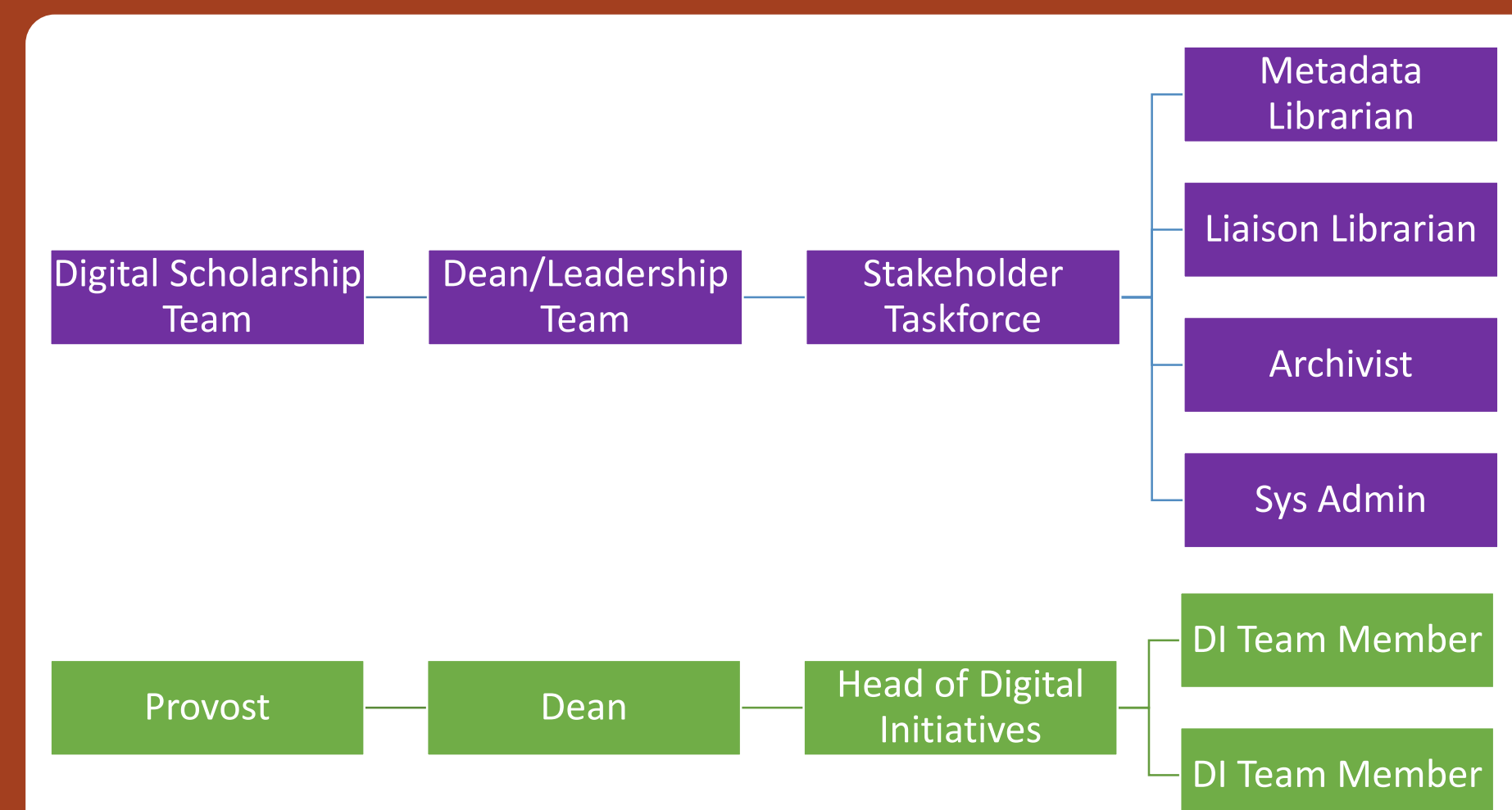
SUSTAINING INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES: Breaking the Mold to Add Value

Karen Bjork - Portland State University; Ryan Otto and *Rebel Cummings-Sauls - Kansas State University

Introduction

Can an institutional repository become a more complete resource to showcase the research & creative works produced by an institution's staff and faculty? Kansas State University Libraries and Portland State University Library sought to answer this question through pilot projects designed to capture the research produced at each institution in 2015.

How it Began



Methods

We searched CVs, resumes, online publication lists, and departmental websites as well as databases and search engines (Web of Science, BioMed Central Journals, Directory of Open Access Journals, Scopus, ScienceDirect, and Google Scholar) for referred journal articles, book chapters, books, and book reviews published in 2015. We exported metadata, where available, to aid in permissions checking and repository record creation.

60% increase of representation of faculty output

Portland State

- Faculty examined: 9%
- Total hours: 212 hours
- Records added: 141 full texts and 132 metadata only

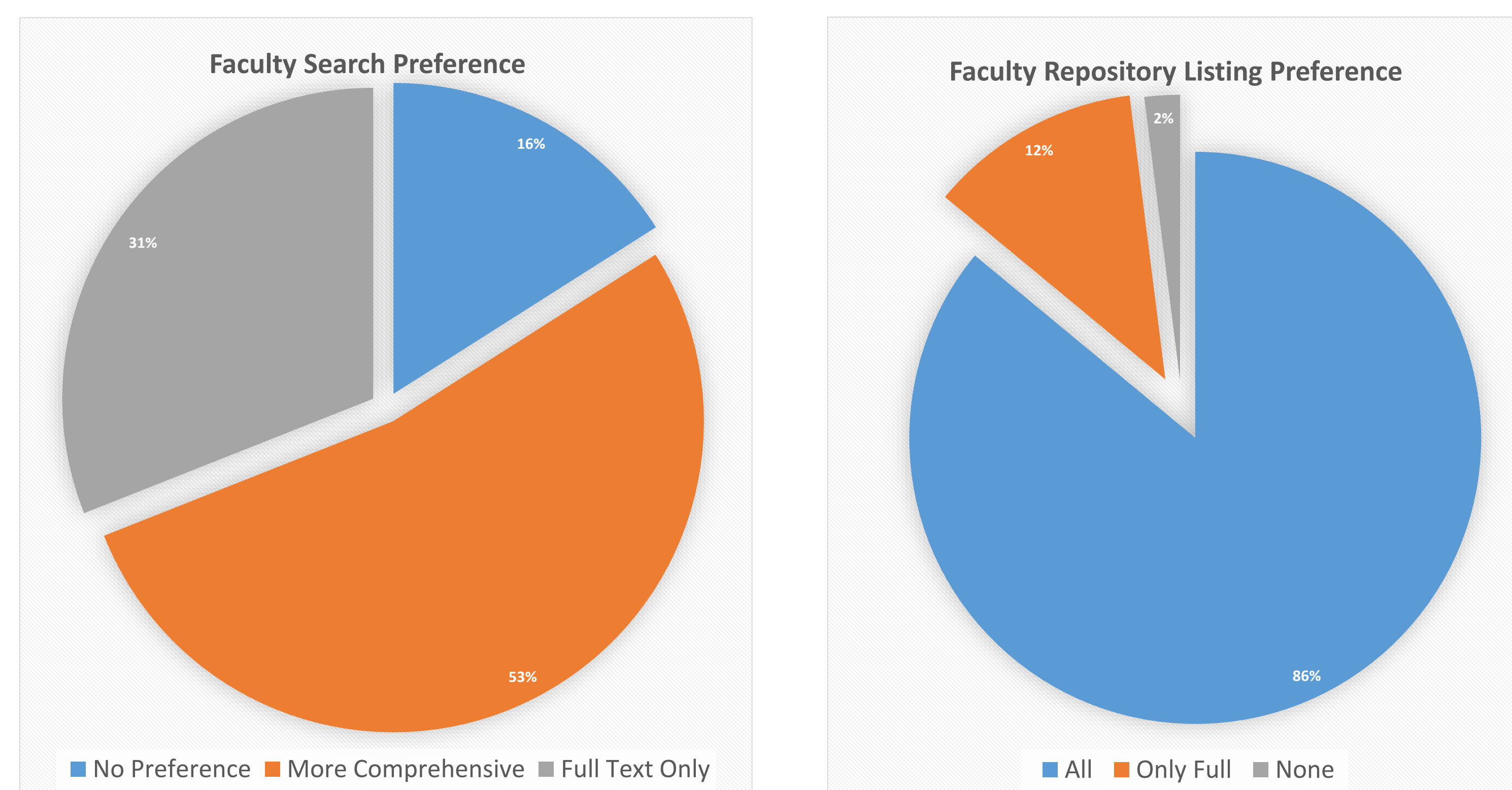
Kansas State University

- Faculty examined: 13.8%
- Total hours: 72 hours
- Records added: 78 full text and 228 metadata only

Demonstrates the importance of reaching out to individual faculty and how critical outreach is to capturing and showcasing scholarship on campus

Data Analysis

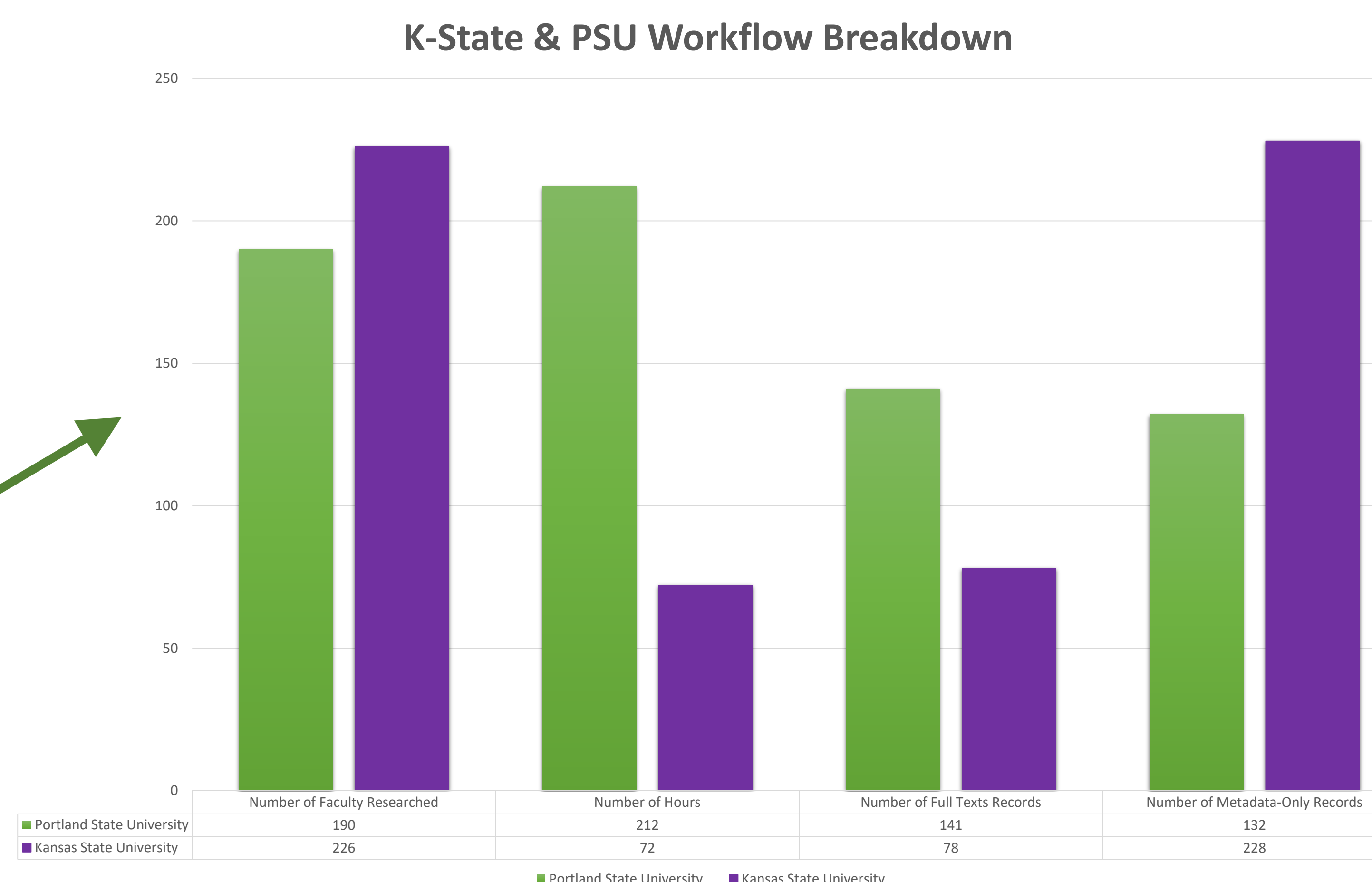
K-State Faculty User Responses



"My frustration is not with the library, but rather the scientific publishing industry and my colleagues who put their work in journals that try to sell reprints"

"I would be extremely pleased to know relevant work existed. Of course it would be inconvenient to hunt it down, but being frustrated about that would hardly make me frustrated to know that it exists."

"I think if we are talking about having some information versus none, then some information always wins."



Considerations

Post-Prints: Majority of journals only allow either a pre- or a post-print copy of an article to be archived in an institutional repository. Each pilot project demonstrated that most faculty are unable to produce versions of their work (pre-prints) other than the publisher's PDF. Provides the opportunity to engage faculty on open access issues.

Staffing: Capturing the research output of an institution takes time and resources. The process of transcribing publication data into spreadsheets, researching copyright, contacting authors, and batch uploading records is time consuming. Provides the opportunity for subject liaisons to get actively involved in the recruitment of faculty research for ingest into the repository.

Impact on Users: There is a risk of frustrating users when adding metadata only records to a repository. When conducting research using a repository with such records, users may discover items but may hit paywalls when attempting to access them. Provides the opportunity to have a broader conversation about open access and the obstacles and frustrations researchers experience accessing journal articles.

Citation discovery and indexing: Repositories are designed to facilitate the efficient dissemination of content to a variety of locations including discovery layers, ILSSs, OAI-PMH aggregators and emerging tools such as Unpaywall and the Open Access Button. The inclusion of repository records that lack full text potentially muddies the waters of the otherwise clean data streams to tools that expect full text items. Provides the opportunity to discuss & explore other avenues to showcase institutional research outputs, such as a current research information system (CRIS) platform.

Conclusions

Universities must "take on a much more active role in ensuring dissemination of the knowledge produced by their institutions - both now and in the future. The shift also positions university to play an increasing active role in dissemination." 1

The decision of whether to include metadata only records will rest on the results of a weighing game; value & advantages vs. risks & disadvantages. To move forward, the value of better representing institutional outputs will need to outweigh the risks and costs.

The inclusion of metadata-only records within an IR to better represent institutionally created outputs potentially represents a stepping stone in the broader evolution of IR platforms.

Additional Resources

Digital version of this poster & supporting resources -

<https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/> - <https://krex.k-state.edu/dspace/>

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* Rebel Cummings-Sauls is now affiliated with Florida Virtual Campus

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