

The Beginning: Western Libraries & The DSC

DSC Steering Team

- Emily Carlisle-Johnston (co-chair)
- Bobby Glushko
- Gene Lusk
- Zack MacDonald
- Laura Smart
- Liz Sutherland
- Kristi Thompson
- Marisa Tippett (co-chair)
- Arielle VanderSchans
- Courtney Waugh

Background

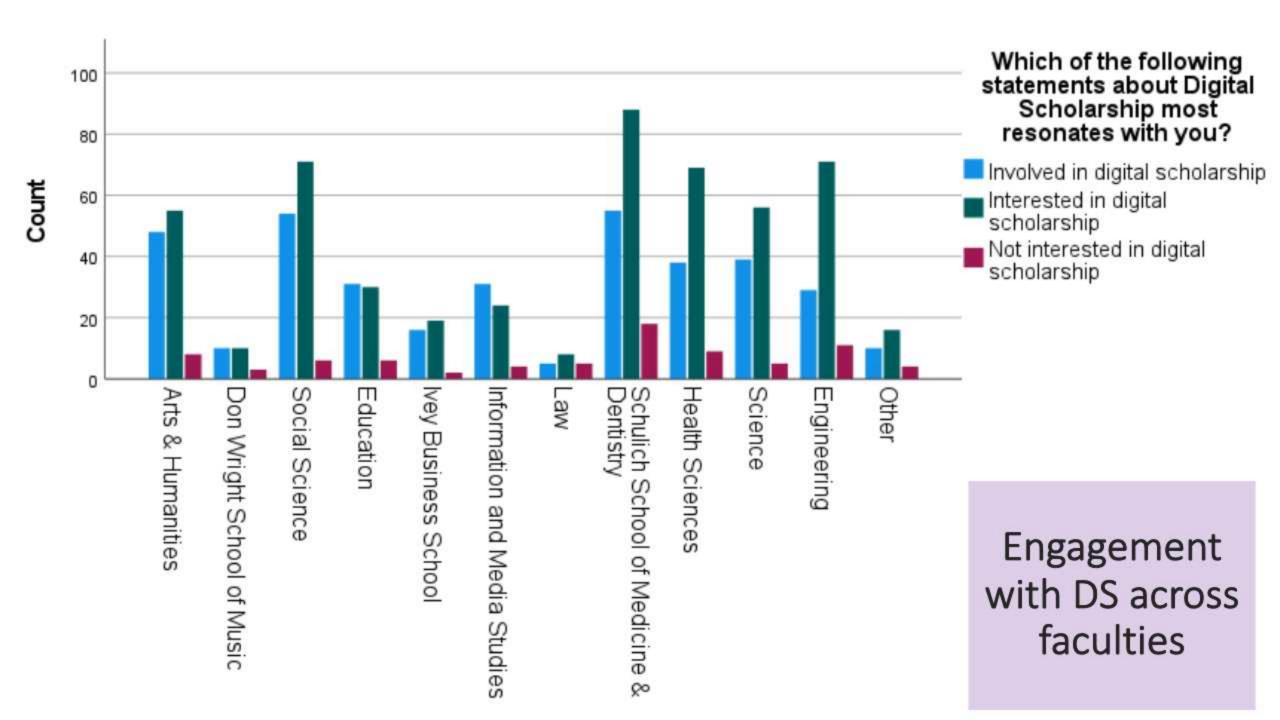
- Weldon Library is currently under going renovations
- DSC Steering committee was created to provide recommendations for the proposed DSC on the ground floor

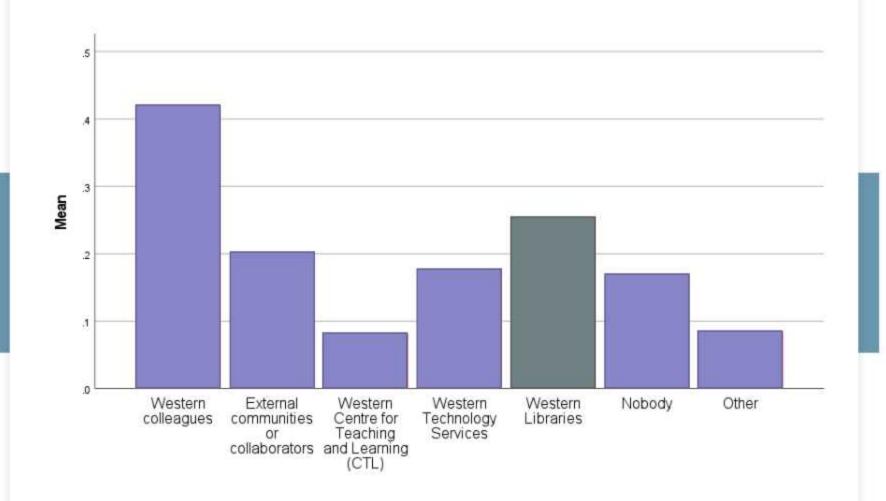
What did we set out to do?

- Ensure all stakeholders consulted, heard, kept informed
- Design recommendations using feedback
- Strategic theme 1: catalyze research, scholarship, creativity
- Create a report with recommendations re: space on ground floor

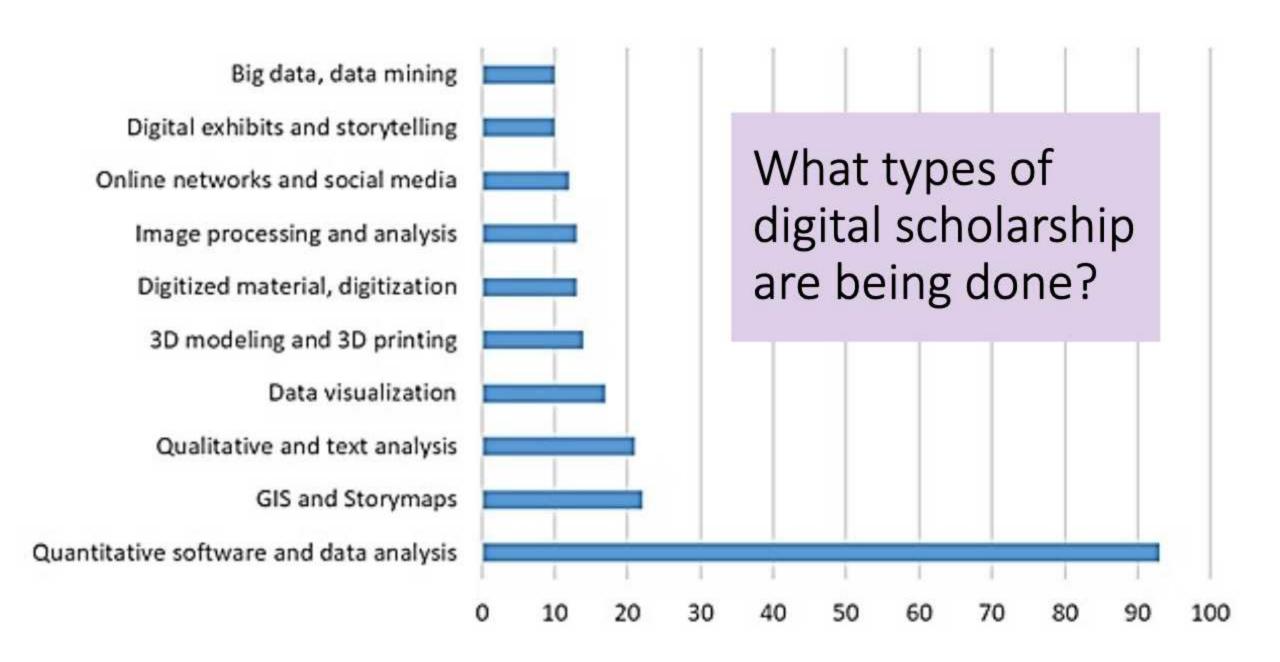
Data Collection

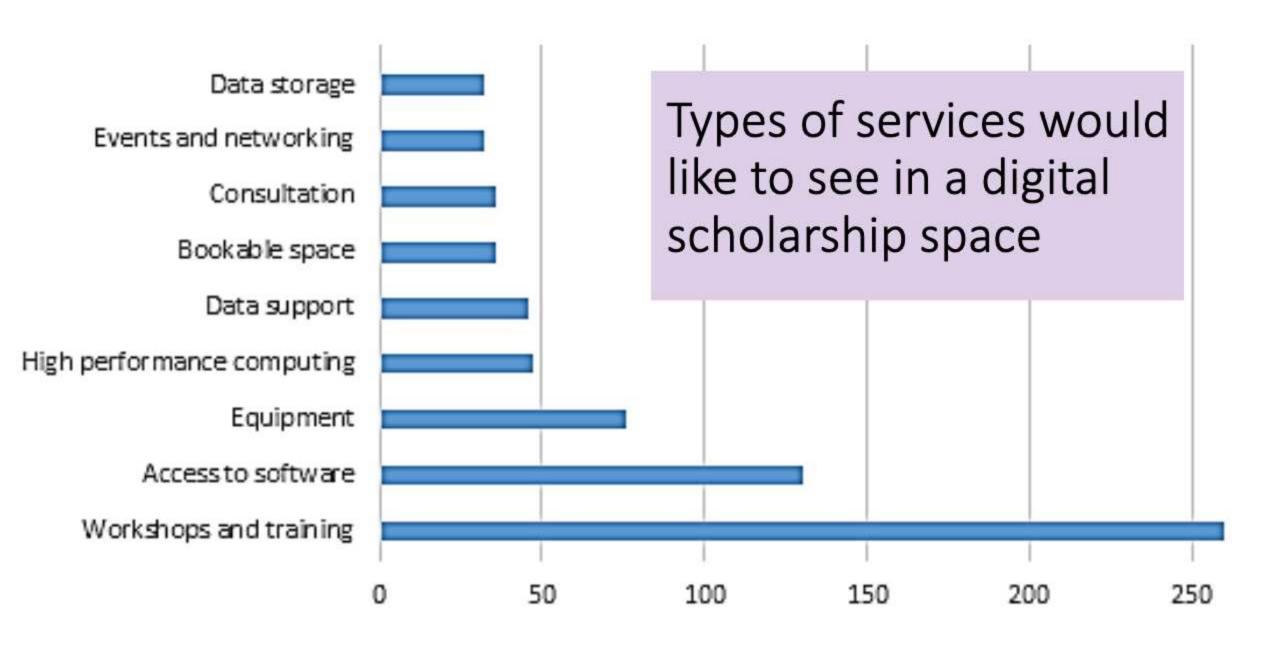
- Campus survey:
 - 2911 responses, including 1077 by graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty, which were pulled out and analyzed separately.
 - Performed a content analysis to code open-ended questions about use of Digital Scholarship methods and requested services
- Followed the survey with 5 focus groups that saw a total of 20 undergraduate, graduate, faculty, and staff participants
- Open sessions to collect feedback from members of Western libraries
- Online interviews with 6 universities with DSCs
 - Brock, McMaster, York, Guelph, Windsor, UBC





Who do you turn to for support with your digital scholarship work?





External DSCs

- The expertise you have will shape your scope
- Use grants to help with funding work
- Project work is more important that individual work
- Effort put into the DSC will determine the amount of use
- Staff should be present in the physical space
- DSC as service point takes huge amount of resources
- Reduce, where possible, the barrier to entry to engage with digital scholarship and the DSC
- Start small and add

What did these findings mean for us?

- We emphasized the need for new people to support new programming and requests for new expertise
- We envisioned the space as flexible; we can start small and grow into the full vision only as resources also grow
- Start by using the space to support our own current programming and programming of campus partners

Western Libraries DSC Vision

- Onsite expertise
- Collaboration and community engagement
- Computer workstations
- Primary source teaching and learning space
- Creation suite
 - Imaging lab, Media lab, Fabrication lab
- WITLab



Collaboration & Community Engagement

- An inviting area where scholars can sit down, share, brainstorm, and develop partnerships to enrich their research and teaching agendas
- Space to host special events and exhibit space for community partners

Primary Source Teaching & Learning Space

- Builds on the concept of "hybrid" learning to bridge the use of content and application of DS techniques
- Active environment for crossdisciplinary collaboration
- Allows faculty to teach using special collections material
- Space for existing and future DS workshops







Creation Suite

- Imaging Lab: offers technology & support for creating a variety of digital images and objects. This space will provide access to scanners for documents and 3D scanning.
- Fabrication Lab: a space where high and low technology are combined. In this space a 3D printer might share counter space with a sewing machine.
- Media Lab: this space would house a studio with green screens and recording equipment to allow the Western community to explore digital media.

WITLab

Western Libraries Immersive Technology Lab is a flexible teaching and research space designed to support faculty, students, and staff engaged in or learning to use immersive technologies in their research or teaching.



Questions?